

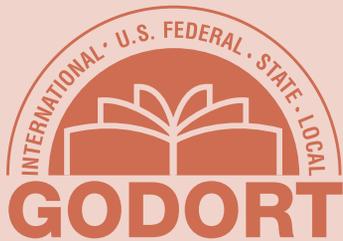
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# DttP

## Documents to the People

Fall 2019 | Volume 47, No. 3 | ISSN 2688-125X





*DttP: Documents to the People* (ISSN: 2688-125X) is published quarterly in spring, summer, fall, and winter by the American Library Association (ALA), 50 East Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611. It is the official publication of ALA's Government Documents Round Table (GODORT).

*DttP* features articles on local, state, national, and international government information and government activities of GODORT. The opinions expressed by its contributors are their own and do not necessarily represent those of GODORT.

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**Subscriptions:** *DttP* is accessible to ALA/GODORT members on a per volume (annual) basis. For subscriptions, prepayment is required in the amount of \$35 in North America, \$45 elsewhere. Checks or money orders should be made payable to "ALA/GODORT" and sent to the Distribution Manager.

**Contributions:** Articles, news items, letters, and other information intended for publication in *DttP* should be submitted to the Lead Editor. All submitted material is subject to editorial review. Please see the website for additional information: <https://journals.ala.org/index.php/dttp/about/editorialPolicies#focusAndScope>.

**Indexing:** Indexed in Library Literature 19, no. 1 (1991) and selectively in PAIS 33, no 1 (2005). Full text also available in HeinOnline 1, no.1 (1972).

**Editorial Production:** ALA Production Services — Tim Clifford, Chris Keech, and Lauren Ehle.

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# DttP

## Documents to the People

Fall 2019 | Volume 47, No. 3 | ISSN 2688-125X

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**About the Cover:** 2019 GODORT Award Winners. Top row: July Siebecker, Haley Johnson and Azalea Janel Ebbay. Second row: Laura Harper and Kris Kasianovitz. Bottom row: Susanne Caro, Lauren Hall, and Ben Chiewphasa

**H**owdy everyone! It has now been one year since I became editor of *DttP*, and I have had a lot of help. I want to give a big thank you to everyone submitting manuscripts, including all the LIS professors nominating student papers. Also thanks to everyone on the GODORT Publications Committee for their support and suggestions.

I also have some special thanks to Valerie Glen, Rebecca Hyde, Bennett Ponsford, Sarah Potvin, Roger Schonfeld, and Wendi Arant Kaspar.

Finally a big shout out to Tim Clifford, and my editorial team and columnists. I appreciate all your help and feedback over the past year.

*DttP* is always accepting manuscript submissions so please send continue your submissions. Also, if you are interested in writing a column or acting as a reviewer, please let me know, the more the merrier.

## Give to the Rozkuszka Scholarship

The W. David Rozkuszka Scholarship provides financial assistance to an individual who is currently working with government information in a library and is trying to complete a master's degree in library science. This award, established in 1994, is named after W. David Rozkuszka, former documents librarian at Stanford University. The award winner receives \$3000.

If you would like to assist in raising the amount of money in the endowment fund you can either donate online or by check. To donate online, go to <https://ec.ala.org/donate/projects> and select GODORT and the Rozkuszka Endowment Scholarship.

If you wish to donate by check, please make your check out to ALA/GODORT and note Rozkuszka Endowment in the memo field. Send your check to GODORT Treasurer: Rebecca Hyde, Pius XII Memorial Library, Saint Louis University, 3650 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63108.

More information about the scholarship and past recipients is available on the GODORT website at <http://www.ala.org/rt/godort/past-award-winners-by-year>.



# From the Chair

Hallie Pritchett



To my surprise, my year as GODORT chair is over. Equally surprising: it has been just over a year since I left the University of Georgia to move into library administration at North Dakota State University. While I was in fact job hunting when I agreed to run for chair in 2017, at the time it did not occur to me that there was a good possibility that these two challenging situations would not only overlap but happen simultaneously. Over this past year, I told many people that had I known that would be the case, I never would have run for GODORT chair. In retrospect, I am not so sure that is true. Job hunting is at best a crapshoot; with so many variables and uncertainties, you rarely know how things will go until you get a job offer. I had interviews for jobs I thought would be too much of a stretch given my experience and heard nothing from places I assumed would at least give me a phone interview. My favorite rejection letter was a terse, two sentence email with the subject line “Not Selected” that came months after the position in question was filled. Talk about breaking it to you gently! Although I was getting enough interviews to think I would find a new job at some point, at the time I had no idea when that would be; for all I knew, I would still be at UGA when I started my term as GODORT chair. Ultimately, I decided that being in the middle of a job search was no reason not to run, and so I did; the rest is history.

Moving into library administration at a new institution is a big step. My new job is quite a bit different than my old one; among other things, I am no longer directly involved in the day-to-day operations of a regional Federal Depository Library. And even though I spent most of my life in Minnesota, coming back to the Upper Midwest after eleven and a half years in Georgia was a bit of a culture shock (and don't get me started on to the winter weather!). As I was settling into my new surroundings, I found that being GODORT chair kept me grounded. Whenever I was feeling particularly ignorant and over my head at my new job, I had something familiar to fall back on; after a decade as a regional depository coordinator, I knew the people, the community, and the issues. The level of confidence I received from working with GODORT this past year made all

the difference in adjusting to my new job; for that, I am particularly grateful.

As of this writing, GODORT's personal membership numbers are still below the minimum ALA requires to have a councilor, so we have lost that position for at least a year. Yet I remain confident that this is just a temporary setback. GODORT had many successes this past year that will only make it stronger and more attractive to new members, including a new website and a new Technology Committee to support it; the revival of the State and Local Documents Task Force as an interest group that better meets the needs of the community; and recommendations from the Ad Hoc Committee on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion that will ensure that GODORT is and remains welcoming and inviting to all. Our programs and meetings at the 2019 ALA Annual Conference were very well-attended and very well-received, with more than sixty people at the GODORT 101 session alone. This year, every program and meeting started with an announcement about how and why to join GODORT; after every session, people made a point of telling me and other members of the Steering Committee they were planning to do so. In short, GODORT is evolving to meet the needs of information professionals that work with government information and it shows.

But GODORT cannot be content with resting on its laurels; there is and always will be work to do so that GODORT remains vibrant, attractive, and relevant. Since the notion of change tends to make people uncomfortable, as outgoing chair I encourage those who succeed me to instead think of how GODORT can continue to grow and evolve to meet the needs of its current and future members. And let me remind future chairs that you do not have to do this alone. GODORT is at its best when its members work together toward our common goal of educating ourselves and our peers about government information in all formats at all levels of government. Perhaps more than any time in our recent history, people want and need to know more about the information our various governments produce. Now is GODORT's time to shine; all we need to do is what we do best.

Thanks to everyone for your contributions to GODORT this past year; it has been my privilege to serve as chair of our round table.

# Review

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**Akers, Regina T. *The Navy's First Enlisted Women: Patriotic Pioneers*. Naval History and Heritage Command, Department of the Navy, 2019. <https://purl.fdlp.gov/GPO/gpo120840>.**

That women served in every military conflict in the history of the United States is common knowledge—but that women performed duties other than nursing during the First World War may come as a surprise to some. Regina Akers, a historian with the Naval History and Heritage Command, describes the service of the more than eleven thousand women that enlisted in the Naval Coastal Defense Reserve during the Great War in *The Navy's First Enlisted Women: Patriotic Pioneers*. She also details the meaning of their contributions to the war effort both at home and overseas. By working as clerks, typists, stenographers, translators, cryptologists, messengers, and even designers of camouflage for ships, these women volunteers freed up men for sea duty and combat.

Akers begins her publication by outlining the history of women in war since the American Revolution, the existing societal norms, and the events leading up to WWI. She then highlights the leadership of Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels, which was generally reformist and forward-thinking. Daniels did not challenge racial discrimination in the Navy; nevertheless, he welcomed the white women that enlisted into the Navy Reserve because the Navy had a pressing need for clerical workers.

Once the legality for women to enlist as reservists was established, a host of logistical and administrative issues had to be addressed, including designing uniforms, locating housing, establishing physical fitness standards, determining eligibility for certain military ranks and benefits, and even what to call the women. They were casually referred to as “yeomenettes” and “yeowomen,” but the official designation for them was “yeomen (F.,” and the (F.) indicated the yeoman’s gender was female.

Although admired for their efficiency and commitment, the yeomen (F.) encountered skepticism and even open hostility. Akers notes that most often the senior enlisted men resented the women reservists that were awarded the rank of chief petty officer without first serving sea duty. Among all

women wanting to serve in the U.S. Navy, minority women fared worst. Only fourteen African American women enlisted as yeomen (F.) because most were denied entry under a pretext such as flat feet (p. 43). Yet over time most men adjusted to the presence of women in the Navy. The women’s service was so valued that some women worked for the Navy as civilian employees after the war ended in 1918. But in the years following the war, the service of the yeomen (F.) was not universally appreciated. The women had to fight for recognition and benefits awarded to their male counterparts. For example, some Congressmen sought to exclude women in the Adjusted Compensation Bill, and it took aggressive lobbying by the American Legion to ensure that women were included in the act that passed. Some of the yeomen (F.) officers were initially given a less-than-honorable discharged simply because it was believed they would never reenlist. Following an official investigation, Secretary Daniels ordered honorable discharges be awarded to those who earned that designation.

Akers’ work provides a useful overview of the yeomen (F.) experience during WWI. Her narrative style is accessible and she avoids needless jargon. Readers will appreciate the thirty black-and-white photographs and illustrations, footnotes that include archival sources, and her suggestions for further research. A brief description for civilian readers regarding the difference between service in the U.S. Navy and the Navy Reserve would have been helpful. Her telling subtitle indicates her narrative’s emphasis is on women’s patriotic service. But a fuller account of the yeomen (F.) service might include accounts of women who were dishonorably discharged for cause or had regrets, reservations, or simply ambivalence about their military service. With that said, the historical record shows that the overwhelming majority of the yeomen (F.) indicated that they cherished and were proud of their time in the military. For them it was a transformative experience and it was one that laid the groundwork for expanded roles for women in the U.S. Navy.—*Kristine Stilwell (kristine.stilwell@ung.edu), Reference Services Librarian and Assistant Professor of Library Science at University of North Georgia*

# TRAIL Spotlight

The first thing that you feel when an airplane lands is the effect of the brakes to slow it down. But, as the report “The Use of Wheel Brakes on Airplanes” points out, the use of brakes had to be proven to be safe before becoming part of standard operating procedures.

Long and grassy landing strips were used in the earlier days of aviation; brakes on the wheels were thought to cause planes to tip over after landing. By testing three different weight conditions and a well-thought out placement of the brakes, these engineers from 1927 proved that brakes were safe to add to airplanes.<sup>1</sup>

NACA (The National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics) was the U.S. agency that produced this report. NACA

started in 1915 and was merged into National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) in 1958.

## Reference

1. Thomas Carroll, “The Use of Wheel Brakes on Airplanes,” NACA-TN-311 (1929), <http://www.technicalreports.org/trail/detail/113097/>.

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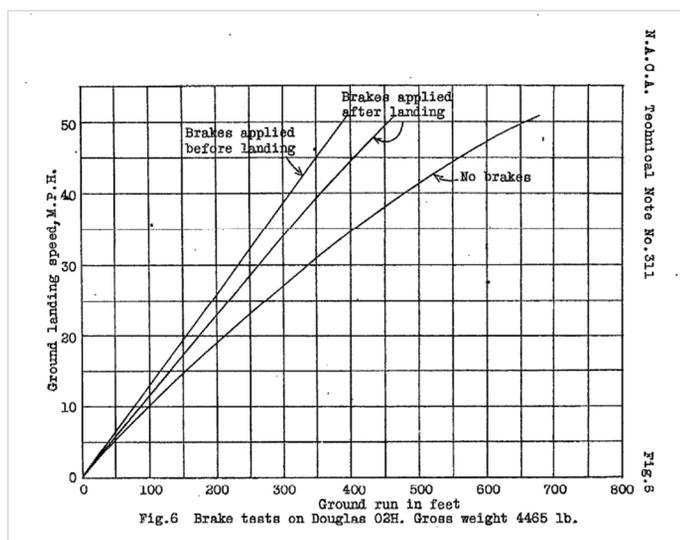


Figure 1. Image of a Brake Test Graph.

# Government Information in Canadian Academic Libraries, 2017–2018

## Survey of Academic Librarians

Emma Cross and Sylvie Lafortune

This article examines how Canadian academic libraries are adapting to major transformations in the publication and delivery of government information. To study this question, a small-scale national survey was conducted in 2017–2018 that covered both technical and public services at Canadian academic libraries. Participants were also asked to comment on the role of academic libraries in regard to government information and future trends in the field.

### Background

What motivated this study? In 2017, the Carleton University Library closed its government information department, which had been a leading service for several decades.<sup>1</sup> The closure, a scenario common in Canadian academic libraries, provided an opportunity to reexamine the current state of government information collections and services in the postsecondary environment.<sup>2</sup> Canada also has a tradition of depository programs at the federal, provincial, and territorial levels to distribute government publications. The decline and cancellation of many of these programs, especially the 2014 cancellation of the Government of Canada Depository Services Program (DSP), has left a void in government information collections and services in academic libraries across the country.<sup>3</sup> The Depository Services Program (DSP) was founded in 1927, and “the original mandate of the DSP was to provide a central and comprehensive distribution source from which published Government of Canada (GC) information would be sent to academic, college, legislative, and public libraries, as well as to federal parliamentarians and departmental libraries.” There were two types of depository libraries: full and selective. “For many decades, depositories

received publications in exchange for providing bibliographic access, long-term preservation, reference services, interlibrary loan and many other public services that ensured free public access to published Government of Canada information.”<sup>4</sup> The Government of Canada officially moved to a “digital-by-default” model for all official publishing on June 1, 2013, as stated in the Federal Economic Action Plan 2013 in the Budget 2013.<sup>5</sup> The Depository Services Program transitioned to an “electronic-only model” in April 2014 to provide “a persistent, online, freely available collection of electronic publications.”<sup>6</sup> The Depository Services Program provides a weekly acquisitions list of recent electronic federal government publications, which will be discussed later.<sup>7</sup> Moreover, there are further complicating factors, such as fewer staff, shift from print to online, changing patterns of use for government information, what to do with legacy print collections at a time of changing user preferences and expectations, and the emergence of commercial curated collections of e-government information.<sup>8</sup>

### Methodology

The research question for this study is how are Canadian academic libraries responding to changes in the publication and delivery of government information? To get a firsthand perspective, we conducted telephone interviews with twenty-three librarians currently working with government information at a Canadian academic library. A total of twenty-four telephone interviews were completed, twelve for public services and twelve for technical services, to obtain an even number of interviews between both technical and public services. (One librarian answered both the public and technical services interview).

The sample included fourteen academic libraries selected to represent the different geographic regions in Canada, both English and French universities, size of institution, and different categories of university (medical/doctoral, comprehensive, and primarily undergraduate). A mixture of closed and open questions were developed, pre-tested, and sent to participants in advance of the telephone call. A number of the interviews were conducted in French. Data was collected between April 2017 and April 2018 and provides a snap shot of one year. All data collected is anonymous and aggregated by region or category of institution only when there are sufficient responses to ensure a particular institution cannot be identified. Data analysis was both quantitative and qualitative, with data coding from the interview transcripts to develop clustered themes based on frequently mentioned issues. A review was performed of related literature in library and information science, the most relevant of which is referenced in this paper. There is a gap in the literature, with little currently published on the subject of government information services using qualitative and quantitative data survey data from Canadian academic librarians. One possible explanation is the research ethics requirements for telephone interviews, which require researchers to receive approval from the research ethics board at each university contacted. While this was a significant undertaking, we selected this research method to gather not only quantitative but also qualitative data about the concerns, attitudes, and opinions of Canadian academic librarians currently working with government information.

## Results, Part 1: How are Technical Services Departments Responding?

Four main themes were identified: (1) mainstreaming government information in the general cataloging workflow, (2) using available tools to increase cataloging efficiency and maximize access to e-government resources, (3) taking a hard look at legacy print collections in a time of changing service models, and (4) support for library consortiums to play an active role in providing access to government information.

### Mainstreaming Cataloging of Government Information

Seventy-five percent of libraries reported they do not have separate staff in technical services for government publications and 92 percent of libraries reported aiming for consistent MARC records for all library resources, including subject headings and classification. More specifically, 67 percent of libraries report using a combination of subject headings in MARC records for government information: Library of Congress Subject Headings

(LCSH) and Canadian Subject Headings (CSH) with other headings (e.g., Medical Subject Headings, MeSH) left in if present.<sup>9</sup> There is a distinct difference for francophone libraries, which report only using Répertoire de vedettes-matière (RVM) subject headings.<sup>10</sup>

CSH is “a list of subject headings in the English language, using controlled vocabulary, to access and express the subject content of documents on Canada and Canadian topics” developed and maintained by Library and Archives Canada. CSH are designed to be used in conjunction with LCSH. RVM is an equivalent list of subject headings in French published by the Bibliothèque de l’Université Laval.<sup>11</sup>

Finally, all libraries reported consistently using the standard MARC coding for government publications in the 008 field. This fixed field offers libraries a variety of options for coding government publications, including “f” for federal; “s” for state, provincial, or territorial; “l” for local; and “i” for international.<sup>12</sup> This is reassuring for librarians using online search techniques to locate government information that utilizes this field.<sup>13</sup> Other popular fields included government publication coding in the 006 field and 500 notes where appropriate (e.g., 583 retention note for shared print collections). Ninety-two percent of libraries reported leaving in the 086 catalog number for Canadian Federal publications when present.

### Using Tools to Increase Cataloging Efficiency and Maximizing Online Access to E-government Resources

Libraries reported a drastic reduction of title-by-title cataloging of government publications. Many mentioned this was due to collection development with increased reliance on commercial e-resource packages that include government information, such as the Canadian Public Policy Collection (CPPC) and less active selection of individual titles. The CPPC package provided by desLibris includes Government of Canada publications as well as publications from Canadian public policy institutes, advocacy groups, think tanks, and other related public interest groups.<sup>14</sup> Seventy-five percent of libraries reported separately cataloging electronic government publications only when requested by reference librarians, and these requests did not typically exceed twelve titles per month for larger libraries. Some libraries reported encouraging public services librarians to use subject or course guides to link directly to government websites and electronic publications.

At the time of the interviews, 83 percent of libraries were batch loading MARC records for government information. Of this group, 80 percent did so at their institution and 20 percent did so at the consortial level. As mentioned earlier, the

Government of Canada Depository Services Program provides a weekly acquisitions list of recent electronic federal government publications, and MARC record sets for Federal publications are created from this list (e.g., the popular Government of Canada MARC record sets created by Library and Archives Canada).<sup>15</sup> An example of MARC record sets for provincial government information is the service offered by the British Columbia Legislative Library.<sup>16</sup> This appears to indicate that batch loading metadata records provided by governments seems to be a way academic libraries are partly filling a void in the acquisition of current government information and perhaps replacing the print depository programs of earlier times. Some libraries also report loading MARC records sets for international government publications from organizations such as the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), World Bank, and International Monetary Fund (IMF).<sup>17</sup>

Finally, the use of a knowledge base to link to government publications through a discovery layer continues to evolve in academic libraries.<sup>18</sup> Forty-two percent of libraries reported using their knowledge base to link to government publications, and data suggests that larger libraries are more adept at using this strategy to maximize access to government e-resources. In our sample, the National Research Council of Canada was the most popular knowledge base package. It should be noted that 33 percent of participants appeared to misunderstand a question about using their library's knowledge base (e.g., a response that all records in the library catalog are found through the library discovery layer). While this could indicate a lack of clarity in the survey question, it also perhaps indicates a useful area for future development. A knowledge base is a tool for e-resource management integrated into a library discovery system. While services and products vary by vendor, generally packages of e-resources are available for dynamic linking via discovery search without records appearing in the library catalog. Thus it appears from the survey data that much can be gained from public and technical services librarians working together to explore all the available options for making government publications accessible at their library.

### What to Do with Legacy Print Collections in a Time of Changing Service Models?

The majority of academic libraries reported processes of weeding, moving items to storage, and merging government publications in with the general library collections. A number of libraries retained a smaller core collection of print government materials. These changes to legacy print collections are motivated by a move toward a student-centered approach to service and the need to provide more space for study areas.

Projects to integrate print government publications into the main library collection are undertaken to increase access, as legacy print collections, especially those with specialised classification, are sometimes difficult to use and under-used by students.<sup>19</sup> COoperative DOcuments (CODOC) classification for government publications and its in-house variants are a feature of Canadian academic libraries, but the future of the classification scheme is in question.<sup>20</sup> Librarians reported that “I like how the CODOC system separates by jurisdiction but it is hard for patrons to use.” Another participant suggested, “CODOC is on the decline as there are far fewer print government publications being published.”

### Support for the Role of Library Consortiums in Providing Access to Government Information

Since the late 1960s, many academic libraries in Canada have joined together in consortiums to provide services for member institutions. Usually starting with the development of interlibrary loans, consortiums have evolved over the decades to provide a variety of services, including procurement, group purchasing and licensing of electronic resources, shared technology infrastructure, professional development, and shared management of print collections. Examples of active academic library consortiums are Ontario Council of University Libraries (OCUL), Council of Prairie and Pacific University Libraries (COPPUL), Bureau de Cooperation Interuniversitaire (BCI) in Quebec, and Novanet in Nova Scotia. Interviews revealed strong support for work at a consortium level to lessen the load for individual libraries and help small and medium-size libraries, especially for digitization and preservation of government information. An outstanding example of this type of work is COPPUL's Shared Print Archive Network, which was mentioned by several participants in relation to the developing practise of shared print management.<sup>21</sup> However, despite the strong support for consortiums, 33 percent of libraries reported not participating in any consortial activities in regard to digitizing or preserving government information. This data suggests more outreach could be useful both for consortiums and librarians working with government information to make the most of collaborative opportunities.

To maximize their resources, many libraries stated they wanted to focus on digitization and preservation of provincial and municipal government information, especially older material that has never been online. As one participant told us, “I'm not a fan of academic libraries taking on the role to preserve federal government documents—there is not enough time for libraries to do this. I support unique local government documents.” This was a consistent theme, and another participant

stated, “We are always looking for the local angle—how can local resources be preserved? I’m not really interested in preserving federal government publications.” Two libraries reported an active program of web archiving for their provincial government publications at their library.

Technical services librarians told us that academic libraries should, as one participant indicated, “facilitate access to government information but should not be wholly responsible for it.” A majority of participants felt there is a role for libraries in this area but that there are definite limits in terms of time and staffing. However, there was a dissenting opinion among some of the librarians interviewed for this study. A minority of participants felt that governments should be primarily responsible for the dissemination and preservation of their own publications, and it was not the role of libraries to assume this responsibility. Also noted was the importance of librarians lobbying governments to improve their publication practises for better access to government information and better preservation of digital publications. Most participants thought the future of government information included a continued reduction in the production of print government publications. A few librarians reported they were starting to question the value of continuing to collect print government publications. Participants projected increasing online access with a growing number of digitization and preservation projects across the country. This suggests that access to government information will continue to be a challenge as there will be a continuous need to keep up to date with changes.

## Results, Part 2: How are Public Services Departments Responding?

The interviews with public services librarians responsible for government information clearly reveal, in the words of one respondent, “Libraries are changing and we see that government information is no longer a priority.” Indeed, when asked how much of their work time was spent on anything related to government information, 75 percent of the respondents said that government information was 25 percent or less of their work. However, if government information included statistics, data, and cartographic information, work time could jump to 50 percent. It is interesting to note that in this sample, 50 percent of the respondents were also involved in data services at their libraries (e.g., helping students and faculty access and use census data).

In our sample, there were no full-time government information librarians; in fact, the majority had multiple portfolios. Fewer than half of participants even had “government information” in their title. The results also show that 25 percent of the

respondents held functional positions (e.g., Digital Scholarship, Data and GIS, and “Disciplinary Activities”) and 17 percent held administrative positions. In this respect, the interviews revealed not only a shift in priorities, but more importantly, how libraries are in a state of flux as to how to reposition government information within their services.

In terms of the library budget for collections, respondents reported that funding for government information is changing. Most librarians stated that active selection of government information is in decline, that spending on monographs is increasingly difficult because many government publications are open access, and/or the publications are part of packages of electronic resources provided by vendors. Funding for government information is ongoing but decreasing every year. It appears that budgets for government information are getting blurry because they are merged with other budgets, such as e-resources, data sets, software, etc. As a result, respondents were often unclear as to the budget allocated to government information.

Public services librarians identified three main roles for academic libraries regarding government information, and the themes were consistent across all respondents: access to content, preservation, and user education. Comments about access to content mirror the acute concerns about the impermanence of electronic publications and the loss of print government information expressed by librarians in technical services. As one librarian told us, “Preservation is a big role for academic libraries. Producers see documents as ephemeral. In academia, government information is often associated to the scholarly record.” The complexity of government documents together with the multiple and ever-changing options for discovery and access makes user education and information literacy even more important. A majority of participants agreed that one way to move forward with these three roles is more collaboration to help with knowledge sharing and training staff in preservation initiatives. Again, this exactly mirrors the strong support for consortiums expressed by librarian colleagues in technical services. Finally, in terms of staff training, concerns about de-skilling were often mentioned.

## Summary and Analysis

Librarians have been confronted with an overwhelming amount of change, both in government publishing and technical services processes, and some reported they were struggling to keep up. “When I came in 1992 there was an entire floor of government documents with a separate reference desk, separate receiving and cataloging staff. Now we are talking about losing the collection completely—it has been such a rapid evolution. . . . I’m just trying to keep up with what is going on.”

Many academic libraries specifically requested more MARC record sets for government publications, especially for Canadian provincial and territorial government publications, which are not consistently available across the country. Batch loading MARC records is an efficient and cost-effective means for libraries of all sizes to provide access to government information, and many wished for more record sets to be available to expand access to this content. Some participants also identified a future role for academic libraries to catalog and manage data sets published by governments as this information is increasingly requested for study and research. A number of academic libraries are now turning to data platforms such as Dataverse for data management and sharing.<sup>22</sup>

All participants in the study expressed acute concern about losing government information both in legacy print collections and electronic publications and data. Respondents worried about how to preserve access for future scholars and students, and these concerns place a lot of pressure on individual libraries with limited staffing and resources. Experienced librarians noted that the actual work of completing digitization projects for government information is time-consuming and labor-intensive, and beyond the capacity of many libraries. With changing service models, competition for valuable library space, and typically low usage statistics, it is not always possible for academic libraries to retain a large print collection of government publications. However, having access to this material is very useful for faculty and students. As one participant told us, “In the case of government information, it fits that ‘use is not equivalent to value.’ I’m big on usage stats so it takes a lot for me to say that!” This makes government publications highly suitable for cooperative preservation projects.

In terms of born-digital government publications, which can disappear without notice, a majority of participants also saw a role for library consortiums in related issues such as web archiving projects, best practice standards, and coordination of digitization projects. Also mentioned was metadata for consortium digital collections to make them findable and accessible. Librarians stated more communication and publicity from consortiums would be helpful so that universities know that these materials are available. For example, one librarian said, “There are numerous projects to preserve and digitize government publications, but they are not always well known or coordinated.” Many librarians spoke about the need for more action from consortiums on government information as this work was clearly not being done by government. “There needs to be audible, visible cooperation amongst libraries to create access to government publications.”

From a public-services perspective, the survey data indicated that collection and service realignment remains unsettled on many campuses. Many libraries are still unclear as to what to do with their government information collections, both print and electronic, and their services. They are still trying to align services with new models of government publication and delivery, and the results of this study indicate that reorganization is ongoing. Furthermore, some librarians expressed concerns about general de-skilling in the area of government information in Canadian academic libraries, which has a direct impact on access to information and user education. Too often, when government information librarians retire, staff with minimum expertise are assigned this area to reorganize collections and services and as an add-on to their existing workload. Some respondents felt that consortiums could play a key role in developing training resources to help alleviate this ongoing de-skilling trend.

## Conclusion

Canadian academic libraries have adopted a number of strategies to respond to changes in the publication and delivery of government information. In the midst of competing priorities and limitations on budget and staffing, libraries are no longer treating government information as a specialized collection. Often initiated by librarians, some institutions are engaging in local and consortium projects to fill the gaps of consistent publication and preservation of government publications. If there is one clear message from this study, it is that despite the many challenges in providing access to government information for faculty and students at Canadian universities, there is also great potential for library consortia to have a positive impact on access to government information.

We hope this research will be useful for librarians to assess the current status of government information services in Canadian academic libraries and identify issues, challenges, and projects for the future in their own libraries and at the consortium level.

## Acknowledgements

Sincere thanks to librarians who participated in this study. Preliminary results were presented at the Concordia University Library 16th Annual Research Forum in Montreal, Quebec, on April 27, 2018. Thanks to participants in our session who provided valuable feedback. Finally, thanks to the reviewer(s) for thoughtful and insightful comments, which improved this article.

This study was approved by the Research Ethics Board at Carleton University (Project # 106544) and research ethics boards at each university we contacted.

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## Appendix. Research Project: Government Information in Canadian Academic Libraries

### Section A: Public Service for Government Information

1. What is your current job title?
2. Are there other Library staff responsible for government information? Yes/No/DK
  - 2.1. If yes, what percentage of their work is spent on government information?
3. Approximately what percentage of your work is spent on government information? (This includes collections, reference, instruction and training library staff.)
4. Have you, or your Library, changed your approach to government information reference in recent years? Yes/No/DK
  - 4.1. If yes, can you briefly explain why?
  - 4.2. If no, can you briefly explain why?
  - 4.3. If DK, can you briefly explain why?
5. What kind of resources do you create and maintain for your users?
  - General guide on government information. Electronic/Print/Both
  - Specialized guides on specific types of government information (e.g., policy resources on climate change).
  - Use of social media to promote government information. Please specify which social media tools.
  - Thematic displays to promote government information
  - Specialized search engine for government information
  - Other (please specify)
  - 5.1 If you answered yes to the above, can you provide a URL or approximate location on the Library website?
6. On average, how many information literacy classes that deal totally or partially with government information do you provide per academic year **for students**?
  - None
  - 1–5
  - 6–10
  - More than 10
7. On average, how many information literacy classes that deal totally or partially with government information do you provide per academic year **for library staff**?
  - None
  - 1–5
  - 6–10
  - More than 10

8. On average, how many information literacy classes that deal totally or partially with government information do you provide per academic year **for faculty or researchers**?
  - None
  - 1–5
  - 6–10
  - More than 10

### Section B: Collection Development for Government Information

1. Do you have a collection development policy for government information at your Library? Yes/No/DK
  - 1.1. If yes, is it available on your website? (Get a URL or location on library website.) Yes/No/DK
  - 1.2. If yes, when was the last time the policy was updated?
  - 1.3. If yes, do you have any plans to revise/update the policy in the future? Yes/No/DK
    - 1.3.1. If yes, what do you think will change?
    - 1.3.2. If no, why not?
2. Was your Library formerly a full or partial depository library? Yes/No/DK
3. Who selects government publications for the Library collection?
4. Does your Library favour e-resources over print for new government publications? Yes/No/DK
  - 4.1. If yes, is this included in your collection development policy?
5. Do you have a separate collections budget for government information? Yes/No/DK
6. Approximately how much money is spent on government information each year at your Library? (\$ amount or approximate %?)
  - 6.1. Don't know
  - 6.2. Do you want to know if this amount has increased or decreased over the past few years?
  - 6.3. If the amount has increased, is this due solely to the US \$?
7. Do you have any collaborative agreements for government information with other libraries? Yes/No/DK
  - 7.1. If no, why not?

7.2. If yes, please provide more details (for example, with which other institution, for what collections, for how long).

7.2.1 If yes, have these agreements been formalized?  
Yes/No/DK

### Section C: Government Information Print Collection

1. Is your government information collection:
  - located in a separate area of the Library?
  - fully integrated into the general Library collection?
  - hybrid—core government information collection with some integration into the main stacks?
  - Other, please explain.
2. Do your government documents circulate? Yes/No/Both
3. Do you keep usage statistics on the print collection? Yes/No/DK
  - 3.1. If yes, how do you do this?
  - 3.2. If no, why not?
4. Are you actively weeding the government information collection? Yes/No/DK
  - 4.1. If yes, how do you do this?
  - 4.2. If no, why not?
5. Are you actively moving government publications into storage? Yes/No/DK
  - 5.1. If no, why not?
6. Are you aware of any future plans for the government publication print collection?

### Conclusion

We have just a few more questions before we conclude the interview.

- In general, what do you think is the role of academic libraries in regard to government information?
- What are the future trends in government information about which you think academic libraries need to be aware?
- Is there anything you would like to add to this topic?

Thank you very much for your time today.

## Technical Services for Government Information

### Section D: Technical Services for Government Information

1. Do you have separate staff in Technical Services for government publications? Yes/No/DK
  - 1.1. If no, do staff work on all formats or is there some degree of specialization?
  - 1.2. If yes, how many separate staff?
  - 1.3. If DK or if technical services does not handle government publications, is there someone else I can speak to about this issue?
2. Which subject headings are used for government publications?
  - LCSH
  - MESH
  - Canadian subject headings
  - RVM
  - Other (please specify)
  - DK
3. Is your government information print collection classified using:
  - CODOC?
  - Library of Congress classification?
  - Another classification scheme? Please specify
  - 3.1. If applicable, what do you think is the future of CODOC?
  - 3.2. If applicable, what do you think is the future of the other classification scheme?
4. In general terms, do you have many separate cataloging policies for government information or does your Library try to treat all records consistently?
  - separate
  - consistent
5. Do you use any of the following fields in your MARC records for government publications?
  - Indicators in 006
  - Indicators in 008
  - 050 field LC call number
  - 086 Catalogue number for Canadian Federal publications
  - 500 notes
  - Tracking field
  - Any other MARC field not mentioned here?
  - NA

6. Is all of your government information print collection currently cataloged? Yes/No/DK
  - 6.1. If no, roughly what % is uncataloged?
    - 6.1.1. If no, does the uncataloged portion fall into any specific areas?
      - 6.1.1.1. Please specify.
7. Does your Library separately catalog OA government publications? Yes/No/DK
  - 7.1. If yes, how is this done (e.g., on request from a reference librarian?)
8. Does your Library download MARC record sets for government publications? Yes/No/DK
  - 8.1. If yes, which record sets do you download? (For example, IMF e-library, OECD iLibrary, World Bank e-Library).
  - 8.2. If yes, which Library department does this work? (Cataloguing, Systems, or another department?)
9. Does your Library download the MARC records for the Government of Canada Weekly Acquisitions List? Yes/No/DK
  - 9.1. If yes, which record sets do you download?
    - MARC21
    - XML
    - LAC MARC21
    - Not sure/don't know
  - 9.2. If no, why not?
10. Do you link to government publications through your Library discovery layer? Yes/No/DK
  - 10.1. If yes, please explain.
  - 10.2. If no, why not?
11. Do you have any ongoing projects to update/maintain catalog records for government information? Indicate which apply:
  - URL checking/fixing broken links
  - closing serial print records
  - upgrading records for items going to storage
  - separating out print/online combined records
  - microform: organizing/upgrading records
  - other—please specify
  - none

### Section E: Preservation and Digitization

1. Does your library have any ongoing projects to preserve government information? Yes/No/DK
  - 1.1. If yes, please provide more details.
  - 1.2. If no, why not?
2. Does your library have any ongoing projects to digitize government information? Yes/No/DK
  - 2.1. If yes, please provide more details.
  - 2.2. If no, why not?

### Future trends

We have just a few more questions before we conclude the interview.

- In general, what do you think is the role of academic libraries in regard to government information?
- What are the future trends in government information about which you think academic libraries need to be aware?
- Is there anything you would like to add to this topic?

Thank you very much for your time today.

# Ghost Guns

Traci Emerson and Sara Bensley

*In May 2013, an American law student, through his company, Defense Distributed, posted instructions online for making a gun with a 3D printer. The instructions were downloaded at least 100,000 times in a matter of two days. The horrifying prospect of the rapid proliferation of untraceable weapons that could evade metal detection—“ghost guns”—unleashed an immediate government reaction that is still playing out. In the short history of 3D-printed guns, government documents present a complex and evolving picture of the interplay among the three branches of government and between the states and federal government. Initially, the U.S. State Department tapped export control regulations to force Defense Distributed to take the instructions off its webpage. A long, complex legal battle ensued. By 2018, with a new presidential administration in place, the State Department abruptly stopped opposing the online posting of 3D-printed gun instructions. With the State Department and Defense Distributed suddenly aligned, twenty state attorneys general took up the legal fight against 3D-printed guns. At the collective states’ request, a federal court issued a temporary restraining order and then a preliminary injunction to keep the 3D-printed gun instructions off the internet, but the case is ongoing. Meanwhile, bills have been introduced in Congress to criminalize the online publication of instructions for 3D-printed guns, and some states are pursuing their own legislative measures against 3D-printed guns. This article discusses the timeline of the story and the key legal and political issues at play.*

In May 2013, an American law student named Cody Wilson successfully test fired a 3D-printed handgun and proceeded to publish the computer-assisted design (CAD) files online through his business, Defense Distributed.<sup>1</sup> These instructional files were downloaded at least 100,000 times in a mere two days, at which point the U.S. State Department tapped export control regulations to force Defense Distributed to take the instructions off its webpage.<sup>2</sup> A long, complex legal battle proceeded regarding Wilson’s rights to publish such information online, which eventually morphed into the State Department and Defense Distributed actually becoming co-defendants in the matter.<sup>3</sup> To date, the issues are still not settled. Meanwhile,

bills have been introduced in Congress to criminalize the online publication of instructions for 3D-printed guns, and some states are pursuing their own legislative measures as well. These guns have become known as “ghost guns” because of their ability to be printed without any supplemental metal parts or a serial number, and therefore without government or any other detection.

## Ghost Guns—The Story

Homemade guns are not new, and 3D-printing technology has been around for a while. For better or worse, it was only a matter of time until someone combined the two ideas effectively. A Texas law student and self-proclaimed “crypto-anarchist” named Cody Wilson and his friend John were the first to successfully test fire a firearm fully fabricated by a 3D printer on May 6, 2013.<sup>4</sup> While others had purported earlier success, all efforts had thus far required a supplemental internal metal piece in order to be fully functional. Wilson’s version did not require any metal. This was groundbreaking, and he wanted share it with others. Doing so, it turns out, has not been as easy as he had hoped.

Wilson immediately published the blueprints for his 3D-printed gun on his business’s website, Defense Distributed.<sup>5</sup> The material proved enormously popular. As previously mentioned, the blueprints had already been downloaded over 100,000 times by the time the State Department stepped in two days later and required Wilson to take the blueprints down from the Defense Distributed website, citing the Arms Export Control Act (AECA) and the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR).<sup>6</sup> At the time, there was a flurry of attention from the news media about Wilson’s invention and the government response, but the letter itself was not public.<sup>7</sup>

## The AECA, USML, ITAR, and the DDT—A World of Acronyms

The AECA is a federal statute that authorizes the president to govern the import and export of defense articles and services on a United States Munitions List (USML) and to promulgate

regulations concerning the same. Pursuant to this authority, the president validly delegated this authority to the State Department, which in turn promulgated the ITAR. The State Department's Directorate of Defense Trade Controls (DDTC) administers these regulations. Any defense articles on the USML cannot be legally exported without a license issued by the DDTC. If there is doubt as to whether an item falls under the jurisdiction of these regulations, a vendor/exporter may file a "commodity jurisdiction" request with the DDTC, which makes a determination about the item.<sup>8</sup>

Among other things, the ITAR specifically restrict the export of "'technical data recorded or stored in any physical form, models, mockups, or other items that reveal technical data directly relating to items' on the USML."<sup>9</sup> According to the State Department's letter, blueprints for 3D-printed guns falls into this category of technical data. Consequently, as outlined in the State Department's letter, Defense Distributed would need to follow the commodity jurisdiction request process to seek approval before posting the blueprints online.

It is important to note that while the State Department letter required Defense Distributed to take down all blueprints for 3D-printed guns from their website pending commodity jurisdiction review—if Defense Distributed chose to request such review—removal of the blueprints from the internet did not preclude Defense Distributed from disseminating the 3D-printing plans by other means. This is because the AECA and ITAR regulations only governed the international dissemination of the information, not domestic distribution. Defense Distributed was and still is free to sell and disseminate their 3D-printing blueprints by other means, as long as it is domestic.<sup>10</sup>

## The Court Battle Begins

The ghost guns narrative quieted down for a couple of years after the State Department's action in 2013. Some legislative measures were introduced, but no significant legislation emerged at the federal level.<sup>11</sup> It was reported that the Department of Homeland Security circulated a bulletin to federal and state law enforcement warning about the dangers of 3D-printed guns and expressing doubt about whether the government could effectively limit access, but this document was not made public.<sup>12</sup> Behind the scenes, Wilson petitioned the State Department for approval to post his controversial material online, but he was denied.

Then, in 2015, two years after posting the instructions online and then taking them down, Wilson and Defense Distributed finally turned to the courts for relief. They filed a lawsuit against the State Department in Texas, seeking a declaratory judgment that the State Department's interpretation of the

export control regulations was unconstitutional.<sup>13</sup> The main thrust of Defense Distributed's argument was that the State Department's prohibition on Defense Distributed violated the First, Second, and Fifth Amendments of the U.S. Constitution. More specifically, Defense Distributed argued that the prohibition was (a) an unconstitutional prior restraint on protected First Amendment speech; (b) a violation of the right to bear arms, which Defense Distributed argued inherently includes the right to acquire or make arms; and (c) the prepublication "review" requirement on Defense Distributed's blueprints was vague and overbroad, and the government's untimely review of continued publication approval requests constituted a violation of the Fifth Amendment's Due Process Clause.<sup>14</sup>

After filing this federal court action, Defense Distributed moved for a preliminary injunction against the State Department to stop it from using the ITAR regulations to block the posting of 3D-printed gun blueprints.<sup>15</sup> The district judge denied this request, and Defense Distributed appealed that determination to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.<sup>16</sup> The Fifth Circuit agreed with the district court and sided with the government.<sup>17</sup> Unhappy with this result, Defense Distributed appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court, which denied review of the matter.<sup>18</sup> The government was on a winning streak, but the underlying case was still not over, and the parties began to prepare for trial before the district court for a determination on whether the State Department's prohibition on Defense Distributed is constitutional.

Meanwhile, states had begun to take action against 3D-printed guns. In 2016, the California legislature enacted a statute requiring anyone who builds a gun to obtain an identification number from the U.S. Department of Justice.<sup>19</sup> This went into effect July 1, 2018. By that point in time, Donald J. Trump had been inaugurated as the forty-fifth president of the United States.

At first, the State Department under President Trump continued to vigorously defend itself in the litigation brought by Defense Distributed. In April 2018, the State Department filed a motion to have the case dismissed on the ground that Defense Distributed's constitutional arguments failed as a matter of law.<sup>20</sup> But then, just a few weeks later, the State Department and Commerce Department quietly published proposed rules which, while they did not specifically mention or name 3D-printed guns, would have the effect of excluding them from export regulations.<sup>21</sup> This would render null and void the State Department's May 2013 letter to Defense Distributed that the State Department had so far fought hard to successfully have upheld. Even more astonishingly, on June 29, 2018, the State Department "surprised the plaintiffs by suddenly offering

them a settlement with essentially everything they wanted.”<sup>22</sup> The settlement became public the day after the notice period expired on the State Department and Commerce Department proposed rule changes.<sup>23</sup> The State Department’s settlement with Defense Distributed in Texas litigation is an inexplicable reversal of its prior interpretation of export regulations. In effect, this settlement would allow Defense Distributed to publish ghost gun printing plans as of August 1, 2018. On top of this strange change of tune, the State Department also agreed to pay \$40,000 of Defense Distributed’s legal fees.<sup>24</sup>

## Checking and Balancing

What had been until then a relatively slow-moving narrative blew up on July 31, 2018, the day before Defense Distributed’s internet ban was to be lifted. That day saw activity from all three branches of the federal government, and several states as well.<sup>25</sup>

First, a federal court in Seattle, Washington, at the request of a group of state attorneys general, issued a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) against Defense Distributed, once again blocking internet publication of the ghost gun blueprints. This marked the initiation of another round of litigation for Defense Distributed that remains ongoing. In short, the state attorneys general have taken up the mantle in the battle against 3D-printed guns, and are now fighting Defense Distributed and, oddly enough, the U.S. State Department. The states are arguing that the manner in which the State Department reversed itself on its export control regulations violated the Administrative Procedures Act because the agency failed to provide thirty days’ advance notice to Congress.<sup>26</sup> In addition, the states contend that the State Department’s newfound tolerance for the online publication of 3D-printed gun plans infringes on states’ rights to exercise police power pursuant to the Tenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.<sup>27</sup> On August 27, 2018, the court converted the TRO into a preliminary injunction against Defense Distributed.<sup>28</sup> Therefore Defense Distributed may not publish their 3D-printed firearm CAD files online pending the resolution of the litigation in Washington.

Also on July 31, 2018, the same day the TRO was issued, Senate Bill 3304, the 3D Printed Gun Safety Act of 2018 was introduced in Congress. That bill proposed amending Title 18 § 44 of the United States Code to prohibit the online “publication of 3D printer plans for the printing of firearms, and for other purposes.”<sup>29</sup> The 3D Printed Gun Safety Act of 2018 was introduced to the House a few days later on August 3, 2018.<sup>30</sup> On August 1, 2018, New York’s Senate introduced a bill that would make it illegal to distribute instructions for ghost guns.<sup>31</sup> The New York State bill, like both federal bills from 2018, died

in committee but has been reintroduced in the current legislative session.<sup>32</sup>

Adding to the action on July 31, 2018, President Trump weighed in on the issue that same day, issuing a tweet that read in full, “I am looking into 3-D Plastic Guns being sold to the public. Already spoke to the NRA, doesn’t seem to make much sense!”<sup>33</sup> It is difficult to discern much from this short message. It would seem that President Trump harbors concerns about 3D-printed guns, but it is not clear what his stance is on the posting of instructions online for them. Moreover, it is unclear whether President Trump knew of his State Department’s about-face on the issue. In any event, despite coming straight from the president, the tweet certainly fails to shed any light on the State Department’s export control regulation strategy or the reasons for its recent reversal on the issue of online plans for 3D-printed guns.

## Conclusion (Or Not)

While the legal issues embedded in this currently unsettled dispute are interesting, their consequential outcomes are unknown. Some argue that this legal battle is only prolonging the inevitable, because illegal online publication of pretty much anything is unstoppable.<sup>34</sup> Moreover, Defense Distributed is still able to disseminate the controversial 3D printing plans by other means, and so it can be argued that the horse is already out of the barn. While these views and questions may have merit, the current legal dispute is exploring novel legal issues that could set precedent for future, analogous situations, and it is buying Congress and other government entities time to figure out how to better address the dangers that widespread 3D-printed guns might pose. This includes perhaps focusing on regulation of ammunition and gun ownership, rather than the firearms themselves. Penalizing unlawful gun ownership instead of trying to track the now infamous ghost guns may prove more effective.

At any rate, even as this story marches forward, as a narrative of government documents the ongoing ghost gun saga highlights the important roles played by each branch of government and the relevance of different levels of government. The issue here is quite narrow: whether someone may post online instructions for making a 3D-printed gun. But the government response is fascinatingly far-ranging. Much of the information now publicly available only came to light as a result of court cases or diligent efforts by journalists. Yet questions remain unanswered. It will be interesting to see, as the case continues to unfold, what additional government documents will surface and what they will add to the story and shape its conclusion.

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16. *Def. Distributed v. U.S. Dep't of State*, 838 F. 3d 451 (5th Cir. 2016).
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21. U.S. Department of State, Proposed Rule, "International Traffic in Arms Regulations: U.S. Munitions List Categories I, II, and III," 83 *Federal Register* 24198-24205 (May 24, 2018), <http://tinyurl.com/y63ea3r2>.
22. Andy Greenberg, "A Landmark Legal Shift Opens Pandora's Box for DIY Guns," *Wired*, July 10, 2018, <http://tinyurl.com/yd55hq3>.
23. First Amended Complaint for Declaratory & Injunctive Relief at ¶ 63, *Washington v. U.S. Dep't of State*, No. 18-cv-1115 (W.D. Wash. filed July 30, 2018).
24. Lopez, "The Battle to Stop 3D-Printed Guns, Explained."
25. The litigation discussed in the following paragraph was initiated on July 30, 2018, complaint filed in Federal court in the Western District of Washington. At this time, there were eight states and the District of Columbia party to the suit. Later, by the time that Motion for Summary Judgment was filed in February 2019, there were nineteen states and the District of Columbia.
26. *Washington v. U.S. Dep't of State*, 315 F. Supp. 3d 1202 (W.D. Wash. 2018) (order granting temporary restraining order); First Amended Complaint for Declaratory & Injunctive Relief at ¶ 231, *Washington v. U.S. Dep't of State*, No. 18-cv-1115 (W.D. Wash. filed July 31, 2018).
27. *Washington v. U.S. Dep't of State*, 315 F. Supp. 3d 1202 (W.D. Wash. 2018) (order granting temporary restraining

- order); First Amended Complaint for Declaratory & Injunctive Relief at ¶¶ 242-45, *Washington v. U.S. Dep't of State*, No. 18-cv-1115 (W.D. Wash. filed July 30, 2018).
28. *Washington v. U.S. Dep't of State*, 318 F. Supp. 3d 1247 (W.D. Wash. 2018) (order granting preliminary injunction).
  29. 3D Printed Gun Safety Act of 2018, S. 3304, 115th Cong. (2018).
  30. 3D Printed Gun Safety Act of 2018, H.R. 6649, 115th Cong. (2018). Neither this act nor its counterpart, S. 3304, made it past introduction. However, the subject of 3D guns is still being addressed in the 116th Congress. On February 8, 2019, the House introduced H. R. 1134 which would disallow the President to unilaterally remove anything from the United States Munitions List, as published on August 31, 2017 (including “technical data” under which category 3D-printed guns fall). On February 12, 2019 the Senate introduced S. 459, the Stopping the Traffic in Overseas Proliferation of Ghost Guns Act.
  31. New York Congress, Senate, Relates to the manufacture, assembly, possession, license and disposal of ghost guns, S. 9145, 2017-2018 Leg. Sess. (N.Y. 2018).
  32. New York Congress, Senate, Relates to the manufacture, assembly, possession, license and disposal of ghost guns, S. 2143, 2019-2020 Leg. Sess. (N.Y. 2019). Other state legislatures are also considering bills to outlaw ghost guns, e.g., Massachusetts Gen. Court, S. 1361, 191st Gen. Court (Mass. 2019); Rhode Island Gen. Assembly, S. 464, Jan. 2019 Sess. (R.I. 2019) (being studied by Senate Judiciary Committee).
  33. Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump), “I am looking into 3-D Plastic Guns being sold to the public. Already spoke to NRA, doesn't seem to make much sense!” Twitter, July 31, 2018, 5:03 a.m., <http://tinyurl.com/y3tsukjx>.
  34. Lopez, “The Battle to Stop 3D-Printed Guns, Explained.”

# 2019 ALA Annual Conference Updates

## Awards Committee

GODORT honored the recipients of its 2019 awards at the annual GODORT Awards Reception at the George Washington University Jacob Burns Law Library's Tasher Great Room on Sunday, June 23, 2019, 6:00–8:00 p.m. Recipients of the awards include:

**ProQuest/GODORT/ALA “Documents to the People” Award:** Laura Harper

**Bernadine Abbott Hoduski Founders Award:** Kris Kasianovitz

**Margaret T. Lane / Virginia F. Saunders Readex Memorial Research Award:** Government Information Essentials, edited by Susanne Caro, authored by Jane Canfield, Susanne Caro, David Dillard, Latanya N. Jenkins, Hayley Johnson, Valery King, Shari Laster, Lori Looney, Andrew Lopez, Leasha E. Martin, Vickie Mix, Lisa Pritchard, Aimee C. Quinn, Antoinette W. Satterfield, Julia Steward, Jill Vassilakos-Long, and Paula L. Webb.

**Newsbank/Readex/GODORT/ALA Catharine J. Reynolds Research Grant:** Hayley Johnson

**W. David Rozkuszka Scholarships:** Ben Chiewphasa and Lauren Hall

**ALA/GODORT Emerging Leader:** Azalea Ebbay

**GODORT/Rainbow Roundtable Larry Romans Mentorship Award:** July Siebecker

The Awards Committee met in a closed session at the ALA Annual Conference to discuss the reception plans, the previous year's work, and the outlook for the next year's committee work. An

opportunity arose in November 2018 for the Rozkuszka Scholarship to be listed in the ALA Scholarship Clearinghouse for 2019 for the 2020 award. While this move will change the date for the deadline of the Rozkuszka applications from December 1, 2019, to a date in March, 2020, the committee agreed that the increased publicity for the award and potential increase in applications would be worth the change. The selection of the recipient will be made in time for the June 2020 GODORT Awards reception at Annual Conference.—*Emily Rogers*

## Cataloging Committee

The GODORT Cataloging Committee met on Sunday, June 23, 2019, at the Marriott Marquis, Supreme Court room. All Committee members attended. A Zoom meeting was available for virtual members and guests. Chair, Andrea Morrison, called the meeting to order and welcomed guests. Andrea Craley, incoming Chair, volunteered to take the minutes. Guest Paige Andrews volunteered to run the Zoom meeting and report comments. Approval of previous minutes was postponed until after conference. Donna Kraemer, incoming GPO representative, gave the Library Services and Content Management update. The Committee had questions about the use of Z39.50 cataloging records from CGP and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) cataloging record set. The chair urged everyone present to submit comments on GPO cataloging via ask-GPO. Jim Noel, Marcive, distributed the Marcive report before the meeting. Andrea Morrison gave the CC:DA liaison report on the activities of the Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access (CC:DA, <https://alcts.ala.org/ccdablog/>). The restructured cataloging

standard RDA: Resource Description and Access will be released in 2020 (see RDA Toolkit, beta RDA, at <https://www.rdatoolkit.org/>). A written report will follow. The main topic of discussion was the Cataloging Toolboxes LibGuides, listed under the Cataloging group on the GODORT LibGuides page, <https://godort.libguides.com>. Andrea Morrison, chair of the Cataloging Toolboxes Working Group, released the draft Cataloging Toolboxes for U.S. Federal Government Information and International Government Information to the public with “under construction” notifications and reported on the progress of the project. The Committee approved publishing the Toolboxes and asking for crowdsource editing. Andrea will send the announcements after conference. Simon Healey agreed to review the LibGuides for accessibility. The Cataloging Toolbox for State and Local Government Information is currently in progress and unpublished. Volunteer contributions and editing is needed for all Toolboxes. State government information is needed for each state, including state library catalogs, classification, cataloging manuals and cataloging manuals. Working Group member Edith Beckett will contribute New Jersey state information and assist Simon on accessibility. Michael Alguire commented on educational outreach for cataloging. The Committee agreed by consensus to focus on improving the LibGuides as the first priority. Finally, the Committee discussed GODORT's draft recommendations on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusions and recommended that the Cataloging Committee discuss issues of equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) related to the ethics of cataloging, metadata description, and changing subject vocabularies. All GODORT groups should seek to include EDI topics

related to their activities in their ongoing work.—*Andrea Morrison, GODORT Cataloging Committee past chair*

## Education Committee

The Education Committee continued its discussion around two continuing projects related to the government information education of current and future library professionals. First, the Emerging Leaders team—comprising Azalea Ebbay, Shelly Guerrero, Megan Hamlin-Black, and Leslie Purdie—presented a summary of their sixteen-page report on a Librarians' Elections and Voting Toolkit. The committee discussed their recommendations, thanked them for their work on the report, and agreed to reach out to contacts with the State Agency Database project to see how best to proceed with creating toolkits and deploying marketing materials for all fifty states. The goal is to have the toolkits ready to go in time for the 2020 election season.

Second, the committee discussed next steps for surveying and promoting government information education in LIS programs. The group discussed previous surveying efforts (most recently in 2007) and agreed that it would be helpful to have an updated survey of gov info courses and instruction in LIS programs to get a sense of how gov info education in LIS programs has changed in the last decade. The committee will be reviewing the current literature on this topic as well.

With two major time-sensitive projects underway, the Education Committee will be looking for times to meet over the summer to continue momentum on these projects.—*Kian Flynn*

## Membership Committee

GODORT 101 was standing-room only, with attendees reflecting the wide gamut of Government Information

Professionals: Federal, State, and Municipal Agency; State Libraries and Archives; Depository, Law; general and subject-specific reference, Public, Special, digital, i-school professors and administrators, preservation; archivists, e-gov; catalogers; outreach, education and community engagement; vendors; and several divisions of Library of Congress, GPO and the National Archives. Following the session, the group moved to Happy Hour at the Marriott's Marquis' High Velocity Bar.—*Rachel Dobkin*

## GODORT Federal Information Interest Group (FIIG) meeting

The Federal Information Interest Group (FIIG) met at the 2019 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., on Saturday, June 22, from 9 to 10 a.m. in the Dogwood Room of the Marriott Marquis Hotel. Forty-one people participated in the meeting.

Three guest speakers, Katrina Stierholz from the St. Louis Federal Reserve, and Stephanie Studts and Adeline Tran from the U.S. Census Bureau, gave presentations showcasing the partnership between the St. Louis Federal Reserve and the U.S. Census Bureau by sharing the data they have and the tools to access it. They shared techniques for incorporating data in the classroom as well as ways that Census is exploring alternative data sources to supplement traditional surveys. FRED (Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis Economic Data), at <https://fred.stlouisfed.org/> was discussed. FRED usage is up 50 percent, and can be downloaded to a smart phone. FRASER, at <https://fraser.stlouisfed.org>, is another resource.

Patricia Siska served as FIIG Group Leader 2019. Hayley Johnson is incoming FIIG Group Leader 2020.

## Membership Update

Following introductions and announcements, Treasurer Rebecca Hyde provided a summary on the status of GODORT's finances, with the full report being sent to the GODORT Membership distribution list.

Past-chair and chair of GODORT's Ad Hoc Committee on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, Shari Laster, presented this group's final report including recommendations for GODORT. This report was distributed to GODORT's Membership distribution list for feedback regarding implementation of these recommendations. A brief discussion regarding implementation and recommendations was conducted between those present. Shari plans to ask that this be discussed by Steering at a later date.

Bill Sudduth, GODORT's Councilor, provided his report from ALA Council, which had only met once at the time of the GODORT Membership meeting. An additional meeting would take place before the end of Annual Conference with the focus on discussing the Subcommittee on Organizational Effectiveness's recommendations for modifying and streamlining the structure of ALA, including restructuring Round Tables.

Simon Healey, a member of ALA's Conference Committee discussed updates on proposed changes to the Midwinter Meeting model. Midwinter 2020 in Philadelphia will be the last iteration of Midwinter in its current format. For Midwinter 2021, the intention is to have a soft launch of a new Midwinter Meeting structure, with an emphasis on programming and professional development, with few business meetings.

GODORT Chair Hallie Pritchett provided an update on the creation of the new Technology Committee, which currently has three members. She is still

looking to find a person to fill the position of chair of this committee.

Megan Hamlin-Black, member of the GODORT Emerging Leader's group assigned to create a marketing and implementation plan for a librarian-to-librarian election toolkit, gave an overview of their project and their final report. GODORT would like to thank the entire Emerging Leader team, Megan Hamlin-Black, Shelly Guerrero, Azalea Ebbay, and Leslie Purdie, for their wonderful work.—*Julia Frankosky, GODORT Secretary*

### Publications Committee

At the Publications meeting Katie Cuyler was recognized as the incoming chair, with Michael Smith as chair-elect.

Bryan Fuller agreed to be the Notable Documents chair again, and he is looking for a new State and Local documents selector.

Laura Sare is in the process of getting a new ISSN number for *DttP* since it is now online. Statistics for *DttP* were shared with the group, and Charmaine Henriques' article "Science, Agriculture, and Nutrition: The Government Documents that Influenced a Nation's Food and Diet" from the Summer 2016 issue had 535 views between the 2019 Midwinter Meeting and Annual Conference.

Guest Patrice McDermott spoke to the group about how we refer people to NARA resources and how we use the records disposition schedules. She told everyone that you can use the older records disposition schedules to see what kinds of records exist which make it easier to make FOIA requests.—*Laura Sare*

### Steering Committee

Simon Healey, a member from the ALA Conference Committee, explained the

new model for the Midwinter Meeting, which will have a soft launch for Midwinter 2021.

Andrew Pace, the ALA Executive Board liaison to GODORT, provided Steering with updates regarding ALA's finances and the Subcommittee on Organizational Effectiveness. The ALA Executive Director search is underway and ALA plans to introduce finalist candidates in October, with the hope of announcing the new director at Midwinter 2020.

Rebecca Hyde, GODORT Treasurer, provided the Treasurer's Report, emphasizing that the market has rebounded and GODORT's finances are in good shape.

Action items from the committees were presented by the committee chairs who were able to attend Steering.

Shari Laster, past-chair of GODORT and current chair of GODORT's Ad Hoc Committee on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion asked for Steering to endorse in principle the recommendations presented in the EDI report. This motion to endorse in principle passed unanimously.

Program ideas for the 2020 Annual Conference were discussed, as the deadline to submit proposals is September 10, 2019. A current idea is the prison pipeline and examining issues related to disenfranchisement.

Hallie Pritchett, chair of GODORT, discussed the status of the newly created Technology Committee. Three people have volunteered but she is still seeking a chair for this committee, preferably someone with experience with Drupal.

There was additional discussion regarding the future of GODORT's presence at the Midwinter Meeting. While the new program-centric model

will not go into effect until Midwinter 2021, GODORT should consider having more programming and fewer meetings at Midwinter 2020. This discussion will continue at the next Steering Committee meeting.

Megan Hamlin-Black, a member of the Emerging Leader's group who worked on a project to create a marketing and implementation plan to create a librarian-to-librarian toolkit for election information, provided an overview of the team's report. Steering was asked to vote to accept their report and offer their thanks to the group. This passed unanimously.

There was a proposal to change the International Documents Task Force to an interest group. After discussion, it was decided that this proposal would be discussed further at the next Steering Committee meeting.—*Julia Frankosky, GODORT Secretary*

### Treasurer Report

For FY2019 through April 30, GODORT's total revenues were \$13,653 and total expenses were \$10,585, for a net gain of \$3,069 and an ending fund balance of \$142,697. For the same period, the Rozkuszka Scholarship Endowment Fund had a net gain of \$3,726 and an Ending Fund Balance of \$118,538. Overall, GODORT is in good fiscal health, but we need to keep a close eye on membership dues going forward and adjust our expenses and/or fund raising efforts as needed. Please see my email to the GODORT membership listserv dated June 18, 2019, for the full report. Questions via email are welcome at [rebecca.hyde@slu.edu](mailto:rebecca.hyde@slu.edu).—*Rebecca Hyde, GODORT Treasurer*