

From the Chair

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For many people, spring is associated with blooming trees, flowering plants, and the beginning of the new growing season. For many GODORT members, it's time for the spring Depository Library Council (DLC) meeting. This year's meeting will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and its focus will be discussion of the GPO's plans for the coming fiscal year. The agenda lists sessions on GPO's strategic vision, authentication and version control, and future tangible product distribution to depositories. Speaking at the ALA Midwinter Meeting, Superintendent of Documents Judy Russell indicated that the FY 2006 budget will not support the distribution of all tangible products currently in the FDLP and that planning for how to use available funds will be finalized following the spring DLC meeting. These topics are critical for the future of the program, and ODORT seeks to encourage fruitful discussions between GPO and its depository library partners.

Spring is the time for sowing and planting. For those working in the field of government information, growing the Federal Depository Library Program Electronic Collection can be very satisfying. How many people have found useful new publications online and wondered why they're not in the Catalog of U.S. Government Publications? Anyone can report new fugitive titles to lostdocs@gpo.gov. For those willing to do more, the Electronic Documents Working Group (EDWG) offers volunteers the opportunity to comb agency sites for titles the FDLP lacks. Information about the program and how to sign up for an agency are linked from the FDLP Desktop (www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fdlp). The EDWG is a partnership of librarians and GPO catalogers. Librarians submit electronic titles that fall within the scope of the program for cataloging and archiving by GPO. Submitting a title in an online series to GPO catalogers also plants the seed for future titles in the series to be identified, archived, and cataloged for everyone to use. Sign up now and harvest catalog records for these resources when they're ripe!

I look forward to seeing many members in Albuquerque!

