Our New Work: Changing Realities and Directions
Summary of group worksheet responses
September 8, 2005

Significant Pressures/Challenges	Change Responses
Changing skill set needed to collect, manage, provide access, preserve	Re-tooling, training, increased affinity group activity, librarians need to move beyond their own community
Changing user expectations	(See items above) and point your browser to Google Uncle Sam
Space	Collaborate to build shared print collection, digitize; Move to deaccession, move stuff off site without recognizing need for treating Gov Pubs like everything else in the collection
Reduce paper collections	Are doing so for current receipts; move to storage when reliable electronic version available; justify continued paper receipts (e.g., because of user needs)
IT challenges	More training
Perception that it's all on the internet	Better marketing, push our services to interfaces where users are
GPO expectations/plans versus institution's expectations/desires not to expend resources on things they thing GPO is going to do; GPO's instability due to political fluctuations	Talking points/strong arguments to convince university administrators of library's role
People can get govt. information on their own via Google	Not a problem for users; answer is implement GPO plan
Redacted content is a problem, i.e. guaranteed archiving is needed	Implement GPO plan
Informed guidance from specialist is needed for sophisticated search/retrieval/understanding	Have specialists available via the discovery mechanisms that users are using for discovery
More online; we need to adjust, but what compelling reasons are there to stay depositories in face of security issues, no break-out of item numbers, nuisance rules	Training needed

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Decreased bibliographic control for online resources

How agencies are making information available

Forming academic partnerships with federal agencies

Redefining the need for the depository program

Structuring the FDLP to be more responsive

Pressure for increased support staff skill sets

Involve human resources—creative hiring

Changing workflows & retraining staff

Deliberately expand Gov Docs knowledge amongst entire Reference staff, no longer treating Gov Docs as different!

Archiving of e-resources, who will do it if not us?

Move to a single catalog of Gov Docs resources that everyone uses, in stead of loading MARCive records individually; create dark archives

"Fugitive" documents no longer held by GPO will take longer to locate

More collaboration amongst institutions to help identify fugitive documents

User expectations

Understand this as a continuum—from no technology skills to high demand for complete electronic access—new role (*illegible)* for low-tech people? More help? Different service?

Permanent public access—limited control over electronic collections, lack of stability

Understand that electronic access can be denied for a variety of reasons— LOCKSS, distributed access, need for greater watchdog role/greater education/lobbying

Need for digitization effort for legacy collections

Nothing in place—concrete plan needed followed by willing participants to fund, supply, digitize, and organize

Expanding universe of born digital documents that are not participating in FDLP

GPO doing some web harvesting—needs to be increased

Demand for electronic

Develop electronic collections or it will

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become commercial

Movement to e-only production by govt. agencies

Better capture and cataloging, searching and access for "born digital"

Transferring the expertise of documents librarians to others—new librarians, other colleagues, etc. (there has been a great deal of dependence on apprenticeship learning)

Develop education/training programs, online tutorials (but who will coordinate? ALA, ARL, GPO?)

Many voices (ARL, ALA, GPO, etc) but who should provide overall direction, leadership?

We don't really know our user needs & use behaviors and patterns

Study them, usability, assessment, etc.

Changing nature of govt. info "documents" are not really documents, they're databases, dynamic, etc. & not published by GPO to begin with or maintained by non-GPO docs—more than 50%

Cost recovery v. free information

Removal of intermediary places more pressure on the user

Changing usage patterns

Integration of govt. info into general library curriculum; outreach to departments; training of users and colleagues