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NEARLY 400 GOVERNMENT INFORMATION LIBRARIANS SET TO MEET FOR MAJOR CONFERENCE

Dispelling misconceptions that librarians seldom venture from behind the reference desk, nearly 400 federal depository librarians and Federal agency representatives will travel from around the country to attend the 10th annual Federal Depository Library Conference, the Nation's premier event for Government information librarians. Sponsored by the Government Printing Office (GPO), the conference will be held October 15-17, 2001 at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites, 625 First Street (703-548-6300) in Alexandria, VA. The conference is being held concurrently with the 59th meeting of the Depository Library Council to the Public Printer.

The Council is composed of 15 representatives of the Government information community who advise GPO on issues related to the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP). Administered by GPO, the FDLP partners with more than 1,300 libraries nationwide that provide local, no-fee public access to information produced by the Federal Government and distributed to the libraries by GPO in print, microform, CD-ROM, and the Internet. In 2000, GPO distributed 12.2 million copies of approximately 29,000 tangible products in traditional and electronic formats to depository libraries. In addition, the libraries provide public access to GPO Access, GPO's acclaimed Web site (at www.gpo.gov/gpoaccess), from which users currently retrieve an average of more than 30 million Federal documents each month.

Highlights of the 3-day conference will include discussions on depository library promotion, education resources on the Web, permanent public access strategies for electronic publications, Baseline Electronic Proficiencies, and more. GPO's ongoing transition to a more electronic FDLP will be a primary focus of the event, while the Census Bureau, U.S. Geological Survey, Federal Aviation Administration, National Imagery and Mapping Agency, Forest Service, Department of Energy, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and other agencies will present updates on their public information activities and products.

Simultaneous technical and information sessions will review important legal resources, disaster plans, and cooperative cataloging issues. Tours of the Department of Justice Library, Dibner Library of the History of Science and Technology, GPO's Library Programs Service, and the U.S. Senate Library will also be available for meeting attendees. Prior to the formal conference, librarians from the Nation's 53 regional depositories will attend an all-day session on Sunday, October 14.

For additional information, please contact Robin Haun-Mohamed, by telephone at (202) 512-1119; by fax at (202) 512-1432; by e-mail at rhaun-mohamed@gpo.gov; or review the Web site at www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fdlp/tools/calendar.html.

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