

SE-3

Section & Interest Group Reports
Government Documents
04/21/2001

CONFERENCE PLANNING

Between what Arizona Library Association (AzLA) has planned and the session that MPLA GOV DOC is cosponsoring with MPLA Technical Services Section, there may be quite a few government documents programs at the AzLA/MPLA conference in Phoenix in December 2001.

The cosponsored session with MPLA Technical Services Section is Documents Data Miner (DDM) an electronic-based system for managing government documents acquisition, claims, classifications, that is especially aimed at federal depository libraries. This system was developed at Wichita State University and latest features and basic logic of the system will be presented. [Any misrepresentations of DDM are my own.] This session seemed another good way to provide information on electronic applications of government documents work, to promote communications and interaction among depository libraries, and to consider ways of improving depository library management and service and to look at components of the possible futures of depository libraries.

Other possible topics, sponsored by AzLA include:

Jerry O'Donnell of the Denver Bureau of the Census office, a general session giving updates on the 2000 census, perhaps with some state-by-state and regional comparisons of trends among our member states [this topic seems to have been confirmed as a "go", if I understand my email from my colleagues in government documents in Arizona properly]

potentially: new State Documents GILS [Government Information Locator System]

potentially: Bob Hinton and electronic competencies for government documents libraries
Bob Hinton and documents promotion/marketing

GOV DOCS SECTION BYLAWS ISSUES

Part of the business meeting in December 2001 is discussion of officers for the section:

Do we want to continue with a chair-elect _and_ a secretary-elect or do we want to simplify, as was recommended and permitted by the MPLA executive board last year, and elect a chair and appoint or nominate a secretary from among those attending the annual business meeting at the annual conference?

ELECTIONS

It is time to find candidates for office for the government documents section. Since we have not changed our bylaws, we still need to find at least one candidate for chair-elect and one for secretary-elect.

Louise Treff-Gangler and Eunice Broadhead, respectively, move into position as Chair and Secretary at the annual meeting in December 2001 in Phoenix, AZ.

BOARD CHOICE NOMINEE

A board choice complimentary membership in MPLA in government documents still needs to be made from this section.

LONG-RANGE PLAN IMPLICATIONS

We have been using email communications--typing in each MPLA GOV DOC section member's email address, copying it and pasting it into new communiqués. Email communication also has kept us going in conference planning.

This section's main focus is on planning conference sessions that will help grow the knowledge and skills among all attendees at meetings our section sponsors. We sponsor some general-interest sessions and try to sponsor one or more sessions aimed at current concerns and issues for those specializing or involved in government documents work in libraries. High among current concerns for government documents specialist are electronic formats of documents, migration of library systems for managing and accessing government documents to electronic formats, and concerns about defining and continuing a role for government-documents depository libraries in the future.

Promoting continuing education and promoting electronic communications both are key components of various parts of the long-range plan.

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