Minutes of the GODORT Publication Committee Meeting  
June 14, 2002, 3-5:30 p.m.  
Georgia World Congress Center Room B214

Attending: Anthony Anderson, Duncan Aldrich, Tim Byrne, Debora Cheney, Suzanne Ebanues, Christof Galli, Ann Miller, Andrea Morrison, Chair, Sandy Peterson, Susan Tulis. Absent: Angel Batiste, James Church, Peggy Jobe, John Shuler and Bill Sleeman.

After the welcome and introduction, the minutes for both Publications Committee meetings at ALA Midwinter Meeting, Jan. 18 and Jan. 21, 2002, were approved.

GODORT History: Sandy Peterson, co-author, reported on the GODORT history, A History of the Government Documents Round table of the American Library Association, 1972-1992, by Lois Mills, 1992-2002 by Larry Romans and Sandy Peterson. The history is complete and published. It was printed by LexisNexis and will be available at the GODORT booth and GODORT anniversary reception. No pictures were included in the new section due to time constraints and difficulties in selection. Larry Romans and Sandy Peterson were very responsive to requests for changes. Andrea Morrison recognized their efforts and work, and the entire committee congratulated them. The Committee also recognized and praised all those who contributed and assisted in completing this project in time for the 30th Anniversary. The old GODORT history by Lois Mills should be available soon on the GODORT web site. The new edition will also be put on the GODORT web site, as there is no copyright claimed on either history.

The Committee charged next year’s committee to investigate putting a digitized version of GODORT Recollections on the GODORT web site.

The Committee discussed a ‘Publications’ link on GODORT’s home page. No new link is called for; the Committee asked the Web Administrator to add digitized publications under ‘Resources’ and to develop design as needed, appropriate, and consistent with the rest of the GODORT home page.

Financial Report: Tim Byrne, GODORT Treasurer, made the financial report. Hein is now advertising in DttP.

Report from the Web Administrator, Christof Galli: The GODORT web page was re-designed; it received commendation from the Committee. The DttP page needs to be developed for a more electronic presence on GODORT’s web site, with the cooperation of the editor of DttP, John Shuler, who has contributed positive comments on this development in his DttP report in absentia. The Committee discussed possible content, including a Table of Contents of a range of years and an index. In a side discussion on creating revenue for GODORT through publications, Susan Tulis and Debora Cheney agreed to serve as consultants to any editorial project on a volume covering issues related to the topic “Continuing Access to Government Information” or “Government Information and Democracy.” An editor is needed, as well as authors for chapter submissions. The project proposal should be submitted to ALA as a publisher, before trying to
complete the project. GODORT members are encouraged to contact the Publications Committee to discuss this or other book publishing projects.

Peggy Jobe was unable to attend and report on the Notable Documents Update, but has been in contact with the Chair. She is on task. Some new appointments will need to be made soon to the Notable Documents Panel.

DttP Report: John Shuler, editor, made a written report on the status of DttP, dated June 11, 2002, to the Committee. The Committee commended to last issues of DttP and recognized the content of the issues. It also directed the editor to include content in DttP to the full amount budgeted. The Publications Committee directed the Web Manager to work with John Shuler and report back on implementation of the web site information on DttP at the next ALA Midwinter Meeting. The Advertising Manager and Subscription Manager Position should be filled by the end of July 2002. The Publications Committee discussed the replacement of the DttP editor, as required, in two years. Upon a suggestion from John Shuler and the Chair of Publications, a training period of at least a year for an incoming editor was discussed, beginning approximately Summer 2003. The Committee recommends the incoming Publications Committee chair, Bill Sleeman, begin the process of finding a new DttP editor now as required by the By-Laws and the PPM, including advertising the position, etc. The editor reports that he should be including an article on cataloging from Rhonda Marker soon in.

Old Business The Committee commended Andrea Morrison on a project well done in the GODORT Brochure. LexisNexis provided $750.00 to print the brochure for Annual Conference. The Committee recommended that a printable version of the current brochure be made available from the GODORT home page under Resources, but that a template version be made available under the Publications Committee’s web site. Andrea Morrison will work with the Web Administrator and the Publications Committee Webmaster to complete this.

The Publications Committee discussed the Education Committee Press Kit, now called “Background issues Kit”. The Education Committee is highly commended on their work with the Kit. The Publications Committee had approved the Press Kit via an e-mail vote prior to conference, as “approved with changes”. The Education Committee had included our Committee’s request for a disclaimer about “views expressed” and the other changes we had requested, therefore the Publications Committee is pleased to report that all changes have been made to the satisfaction of the Committee. The Publications Committee suggests, after further discussion, that the references to the Presidential paper issues sources be removed. The Publications Committee also recommends that the “Kit” be taken one step further, into a pamphlet or other educational materials.

Reports on progress of Publications: Congratulations to Debora Cheney on completing the Citation Guide to Government Information. It will soon be available for purchase. Susan Tulis reported on the Directory, which is moving forward. There were some problems with receipt of questionnaires following Sept. 11. The contract is in place and people are encouraged to complete their entry. In absentia, Jim Church reported to the Committee chair that the IDTF survey would soon be submitted to DttP.
GODORT Electronic Occasional Paper Series. The Committee discussed the series and charged next year’s Publications Committee to continue working on developing this series. Andrea Morrison stepped down as Working Group chair on editorial policy, submission, and review processes, and recommended former working group member, Suzanne Ebanues, present, as chair. The Committee approved the appointment and the appointment was accepted.

New Business

Should GODORT Communities write an Annual Report? Upon discussion, the Committee agreed that workload precluded implementation of this idea, regardless of how desirable it might be. Committee Chairs can choose to submit reports to DttP. The Publications Committee encourages Committees and Task Forces to complete thorough and timely minutes.

No second meeting is necessary. The Committee arranged to leave notification at the meeting room of Publications II. The Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Morrison
GODORT Publications Committee, Chair

Submitted Report on the Status of DttP
June 11, 2002
John A. Shuler

Articles and Deadlines

The deadline for the Fall 2002 Issue will be June 28, 2002. This issue will have papers from a Patent program presented at ALA last summer. The deadline for the Winter Issue 2002 will be September 13, 2002. This issue will have papers presented from the Summer 2001 Preconference on Historic Federal Documents.

Advertising and Subscription Manager Positions

I am in the process of contacting two individuals who have indicated a willingness to serve. Should have both positions filled by the end of July 2002. Expected income from advertising will be less than a thousand dollars.

Printing and Production Costs

These continue to be brought in under budget. With more careful management of resources, it is expected to increase the number of pages over the next two issues.

Advertising Sales
These have been in a slump since September, due to the continued merger of major publishing companies, the slump in the economy. Advertising folks tell me that they are more interested in next year. This is quite a departure from the hopeful responses I got from advertisers during the Winter and Summer ALA conferences.

Subscriptions

These funds, now that the issues have been on a regular delivery, have begun to show a return to the plus column. Have approximately $4,000 worth of checks I will be sending to ALA Washington office.

Web Page Information

Now that the journal has achieved a fair degree of stability in terms of publication and subscription base, we need to push this major publication through the Roundtable’s web pages. Specifically, along with the other major publication series sponsored by GODORT, these new web pages should highlight the journal’s editorial mission statement and policies, advertising rates, subscription payments, publishing schedules, as well as an index for issues since 1998.