

GITCO Meeting Minutes
Sunday 6/23/03
2pm

Submitted by Wendy Mann

- I. Welcome and introductions
- II. Agenda approved
- III. Past minutes were approved
- IV. Reports from liaisons
 - a. FDTF – liaison not present. Those who attended the FDTF meeting reported what happened. Discussion of GPO agreement with OMB. This will be posted on the GODORT Web site.
 - b. IDTF – Promoting IGO resources to scholars and citizens was discussed. IDTF attendees received updates from OECD and World Bank. Developed a proposal for an ALA 2005 program idea on digitizing and cataloging issues regarding IGO publications.
 - c. SLDTF – there was no quorum at the meeting, so there were no votes, but decided to proceed with the meeting. SLD Toolbox Web page will be going to the steering committee for approval. After approval, SLD Toolbox will be publicly accessible from GODORT site. 2004 ALA program in development regarding local documents tentatively entitled “potholes on the information highway.” Proposal for 2005 program in development.
- V. Census updated from Andrea Severson. Andrea distributed a handout and highlighted important points. Most notably: SF 3 DVDs will be out soon, will be a 2 DVD set; PHC-2 reports have been sent out without appendices, will print in a separate volume soon; AIAN Data and Links on American FacFinder; Fast Facts for Congress set up for members of congress, very easy to use; Historical Census Volumes to be posted within the next 6 months, not ADA compliant, not sure if everything from the Census was digitized, print quality not as good as Norman Ross reprints, all of the Statistical Abstracts are included in this; new Metropolitan Statistical Area definitions are in effect; more Census Bureau training sessions will be offered. More details and information from this guide will be sent out to GOVDOC-L and posted to GODORT site??
 - Questions from members of committee: Will there be any kind of tangible EEO products? Not sure. Will add more details when mail updated to GOVDOC-L.
 - PHC-1 and PHC-2 supposed to be a print volume. Right now they are PDF files on the Census Web site.
 - Will PHC-1 and PHC-2 US Summaries be available in paper? US Summaries will be coming out soon for volume 1. These were printed last. Will be getting US Summaries for volume 2 as well.
- VI. Report on Friday’s Preconference: A few speakers cancelled, but despite that all went well. There were 40 attendees. Between \$3-6,000 was brought in. Raised more money than spent. Committee acknowledged Cathy’s hard work. Thank you!
- VII. Ongoing Projects (some committee members unable to attend, Amy gave some updates).
 - a. SDI – SDI database on IIT Web site. GPO might host it, still some things to work out. Site is up. Need volunteers to periodically check links and to make sure up-to-date. Sandy Peterson and Luke Griffith now working on this.
 - b. DTTP Tech Watch Column – changing DTTP publication schedule to twice per year. Have the next two columns lined up. Ideas for columns or volunteers get in touch with Megan.

- c. CD-ROM Doc – 1721 Records, added 136 and modified 616 last FY. New person will be taking over next year when Carolyn retires (?) also will be new tech support person. Will be moving database to a new server at some point in the future. Average 243 outside hits per month.
- d. Census 2000 Toolkit -- Nothing new to report. Hui Hua is still maintaining it.
- e. E-Competencies – Not adding much as of now, not many changes.

VIII.

New Business

- a. Judy Russell from GPO attended GITCO meeting and discussed legacy software issues. GPO needs help in figuring out a way to address aging CD-ROM titles before catastrophic failures of data or software.
 - Wants to address this head-on before it becomes a big problem. Judy asked people if one approach would be to take different CDs to test? Judy has contacted agencies to let them know that legacy software is becoming a problem.
 - Proprietary file formats is one cause. Judy spoke at a conference for DVD group and mentioned that they need to be conscious of these legacy software and proprietary file format issues – that going this route can at some point in the future lock up access to the data. Permanent preservation and presentation of data is a big task.
 - Right now there is the floppy disk project, is GPO going to do something similar to this?
 - Approach needs to be systematic.
 - Migration of data off CDs to another media? Issues with the media, how long will CDs last?
 - Again, before we lose data we need to address it.
 - How does GITCO propose approaching this? We must be organized and collect data we need. Carolyn's CD project is a start. Database must be flexible enough to add new fields.
 - This is an opportunity to educate agencies and congress on the costs of republishing and remastering data. The data does not last forever or remain accessible forever. There is a built in obsolescence every 5 to 10 years. Must factor in that this data needs to be refreshed.
 - Strong argument for converting back to ASCII.
 - Judy commented that we should try to get agencies to do something before we start working on this.
 - How do we approach this problem? Combination of agency/chronological approach. Should start collecting data even for CDs coming out now. Can canvas documents people, how many agency Web sites have the same data that is on CD, not only functionality but also raw content and guaranteed public access. Need to be proactive.
 - After we get a sense of the magnitude of the project we may be able to solicit help from APDU and ICPSR, especially with the numeric data.
 - Cathy moved that GITCO from a 2 groups:
 - a. Build a document or database published in tangible format with list of questions people will need to ask when evaluating CDs.
 - b. 2nd group will perform actual review and will consult outside people and develop a process. Work with Carolyn to make sure we have data we need.
 - c. Motion approved.

- b. Terrorism Information Awareness (TIA) System – Amy wants to know if anyone is interested in researching this to see if the terms used on this Web site can be researched for further explanation. Motion approved.
 - c. SSTF project left over from midwinter. SSTFs still not being released. Confirmed that we can't get all iterations of SSTF on AFF. By using PUMS (just released and not a chance to test yet) we can do this, but nothing to report right now.
 - d. Amy distributed something she worked on from midwinter. Wants to propose a project to list differences between Import/Export CDs/DVDs and USA Trade On-line. Different interface. USA Trade On-line has rolling date. Amy proposed making a guide explaining differences between these two.
 - e. No other new business.
- IX. John Hernandez will be new chair of GITCO. James will be taking over Web pages.
- X. Meeting adjourned at 3:40pm.