

GODORT Legislation Committee
2022 Midwinter Meeting
Tuesday, January 11, 2022
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM CST

Present: Shari Laster, Deborah Yun Caldwell, James Jacobs, Bernadine Abbot Hoduski

Excused: Valerie Glenn, Howard Carrier

Guests: Gavin Baker, Joe Thompson, Lisa Jochelson, Samantha Hager, Antoinette Satterfield, Jennifer Manning, Daniel Cornwall, Karen Tate, Simon Healey, Dana Deseck-Piazzon, Andie Craley, Sinai Wood, Alicia Kubas, Robbie Sittel, Lynda Kellam, Ester McShepherd, Perveen Rustomfram

Minutes: Deborah Yun Caldwell, Shari Laster

- I. Welcome & introductions
- II. Memorial resolution for Mary Redmond
 - A. Steering has endorsed this in principle, will be presented at membership meeting on Thursday
 - B. Vote passed
- III. Updates
 - A. Committee on Legislation, Government Information Subcommittee
 1. Update from Joseph Thompson (Chair, COL), Lisa Jochelson (Chair, COL-GIS): introduction to ALA's Committee on Legislation. More details here: <https://www.ala.org/aboutala/committees/ala/ala-lq>
 2. Legislative Agenda for 2022 can be found in their Council report at <https://www.ala.org/aboutala/sites/ala.org/aboutala/files/content/ALA%20CD%2020%20Committee%20on%20Legislation%20Report.pdf>
 3. GIS serves as sounding board for COL resolutions related to government information
 4. Chair of GODORT LegComm serves as GODORT liaison to COL-GIS
 - B. ALA Public Policy & Advocacy
 1. Gavin Baker gives introduction to ALA PPA: <https://www.ala.org/aboutala/offices/ppa>
 - C. Questions for both:
 1. Discussion on [E-Rate](#)
 - a) E-Rate is used by public, tribal, rural, school libraries to pay for phone and internet access. It's a fee that goes on internet and phone subscribers' bills that goes toward the universal services fund, administered [by a nonprofit](#) that distributes the funding through discounts and reimbursements to schools and libraries. Some restrictions to participation.

- b) Recent issues include whether to advocate for expanding approved uses for E-Rate funding, such as adding eligibility to buy and lend hotspots for people to use at home or extend wifi access to parking lots.
 - 2. Advocating for increased funding for specific GPO programs
 - a) For the most part ALA advocates for and requests support for the budget request that has come from the agency. The last few years, the budget requests have been flat. (If they requested a cut for example, we might then *not* support their appropriations request.)
 - b) This includes work they do re: preservation, FDLP, etc.
 - 3. How can GODORT best comment on and participate in decisions and processes beneficial to and in alignment with COL-GIS, ALA PPA, etc.?
 - a) Resolutions might not be the best way to address public policy issues
 - b) Council should try to be broad and flexible in direction it gives, especially because situations on the ground can change so quickly and waiting for the next vote or being bound by a resolution made months earlier can be very limiting.

IV. FDLP Advocacy Plan for GODORT

- A. *Progress report (Ran out of time to discuss this - tabled for next LegComm meeting)*
- B. *“What is the FDLP?” document update (Ran out of time to discuss this - tabled for next LegComm meeting)*
- C. *Next steps – increasing Congressional awareness of the FDLP (Ran out of time to discuss this - tabled for next LegComm meeting)*
- D. Next steps – increasing GODORT member engagement with advocacy
 - 1. Gavin: There are not always the opportunities we would prefer there to be. There was a significant opportunity in 2017-18 to modernize Title 44 when the House committee wanted to work with libraries on introducing a bill, so at that time we asked for input and support. Since 2018 Congress has not been as interested in the topic, so it’s on the back burner. While we’re in this holding pattern it is a key time to build relationships with the members that represent your library, bring them in for tours, etc, to lay the foundations for when we can pick this back up with more steam again.
 - 2. Shari: Will continue to liaise between COL-GIS and GODORT, and encourage more information sharing about what libraries need from GPO that may be addressed outside of legislation.

V. Next meeting:

- A. Shari will schedule the next LegComm meeting in February to pick up the agenda items not covered today.