

Fireside Chat with the Taskforce Coordinators of GODORT

October 9, 2015

Notes from the fireside chat.

What is core & how do we focus?

Breakout 3:

Make sure you get your thoughts in these text boxes all can participate.

survey the membership and go from there?

yes, send out that question, what is core to GODORT?

it's good for an organization, GODORT, to have a periodic review

right, ou

Breakout 2:

Educational aspect (stephen demonstrating for all ... smile). You too can type.

-- continuing education?

-- publications

Outreach

-- to other libraries and librarians

Advocacy

Breakout 1:

Core functions:

*advocacy for gov docs

*professional development

*create connections between librarians

*be a voice both within ALA and externally about government documents issues

*host really supurb happy hours

*programming for non-government documents librarians about gov info topics/issues

How do we focus? Not sure!

What is the real function of GODORT?

Breakout 3:

Rare and Endangered.

Information sharing, meeting government information colleagues,

Breakout 2:

Should this be the same as our core /focus?

Breakout 1:

For cataloging I keep thinking there are other groups, ie.. alcts, that serves cataloging issues so maybe the committee should just be an interest group. So does cataloging need to be a "real" function of GODORT,

To me, the idea behind having GODORT committees is to have the government information focus on these topics. Gov docs cataloging is its own peculiar area, so having a committee in GODORT provides a venue to discuss issues and concerns -- for example, changing to GPO cataloging practices.

Yes, I see that point. But I wonder if the committee may need to reorganize. Or perhaps change its mission and goals. Only a small part of the function of GODORT

Right, sometimes committees can have assignments or areas that aren't really issues of concern any more. REGP is currently shifting its focus from only being about print preservation to talking more about concerns of capturing 'endangered' digital government information -- or at least, I'm trying to shift the conversation in that direction.

There's nothing in the current structure that precludes committees from doing that. But if there's really no reason for a committee to continue to be constituted and meet, then that's okay. We have a discussion group structure available for that kind of topical area.

Should committees be responsible for organizing programs or should that be left to individuals. Example most Cataloging committee members are not catalogers. Not sure how to accomplish something like a program on cataloging related to docs.

Ellen, I think it can be either or both. One approach to take is to consider inviting experts or people working in specific roles to talk about their work. While there's no requirement that committees do programs, it's nice to have it as an option.

I also like the programming. I really enjoyed the SLDTF program that happened at the recent ALA. Wish there were more of those. Or maybe discussion groups.

Do you think the taskforces are necessary? Why?

Breakout 3:

They keep us honest, on track. Good communication tool for Steering and dispensing information but not necessarily good for getting projects done.

P

Breakout 2:

I do think they're necessary, but need to be re-invisioned. One of the things that has frustrated me about FDTF lately is that there are so many items that people want to discuss, along with updates from GPO, that that there's not a good change for detailed discussion.

The TF (though I don't care what they are called) are the primary place that International docs get discussed I don't think they get adequately covered by committees. Fed docs dominates. How do we get around that

The issue of fed docs dominating has been around at least as long as I've been in GODORT. It's hard because the majority of the members have traditionally had fed docs positions, so it's very easy for the topic to dominate unless there's strong involvement from int'l, state, locals docs folks.

which is why it is necessary to maintain a separate space for IDTF or SLDTF issues

exactly!

Breakout 1:

Absolutely -- otherwise federal documents can easily drown out the other concerns that we have with government information. Organizing by area makes sure that people are paying attention to these issues.

I agree that the taskforces are necessary. I think having the big umbrella over a certain type of doc is appealing.

General Chat:

Shari Laster: I like the fireside. :)

----- (10/09/2015 15:57) -----

Helen Murtagh Sheehy: no problem

----- (10/09/2015 16:01) -----

Helen Murtagh Sheehy: nothing happened

----- (10/09/2015 16:08) -----

Stephen Woods: susan can you restate your update. I was not recording (sigh)

Stephen Woods: you too justin

Justin Otto: Will do

susan.paterson@ubc.ca: yes i can do that

----- (10/09/2015 16:11) -----

Stephen Woods: we did record you jenn so no need to repeat

----- (10/09/2015 16:12) -----

Jenn Huck: Yes! I got lucky

----- (10/09/2015 16:13) -----

Helen Murtagh Sheehy: have you started working your "strategic goals" and are you trying to coordinate across task forces?

Helen Murtagh Sheehy: yes

----- (10/09/2015 16:15) -----

Stephen Woods: are you planning on sharing your thoughts on the three question before going into the breakout rooms?

ellen: Yes. the Cataloging Committee is supposed to review the Cataloging Toolboxes but to date only the Federal has been updated and needs to be reexamined again. But the problem we have is that most on the committee are not catalogers. Would it be possible to ask these task force groups for volunteers

to help us. Maybe I need to talk to you separately and with the liaisons from the Task forces to your committee. Any thoughts or should I just contact you separately. Hope this makes sense and sorry for the poor typing

ellen: sorry our comittee

----- (10/09/2015 16:17) -----

ellen: I am glad to here others are still needing to do work on the goals assignment.

----- (10/09/2015 16:20) -----

Helen Murtagh Sheehy: I personally think FDTF is the only task force that has multiple opportunities to interact with docs librarians. There are both DLC and ALA meetings. As a member of IDTF I count on the task for to provide a space to interact with agencies and vendors.

----- (10/09/2015 16:21) -----

Helen Murtagh Sheehy: yes, and it is really the only place I have to get that interaction

ellen: Toolboxes are for cataloging for Federal, State/Local and International by the by.

----- (10/09/2015 16:23) -----

Shari Laster: To add to what Ellen is saying, the task forces are, at least ideally, a good way to recruit folks who are interested in a specific area to work on committee projects. REGP has worked on some projects related to local docs, and we can reach out to SLDTF for volunteers.

ellen: The toolboxes have documents and web sites to help doc catalogers

Valerie Glenn: There are toolboxes for cataloging gov't info on the various levels. The Cataloging Committee created(?) them, and they aren't up-to-date.

ellen: Actually John Stephenson created them but I am new to this so I could be wrong.

----- (10/09/2015 16:25) -----

Shari Laster: Justin, I like your framing of task forces as also being interest groups. Speaking for myself, I think both are important: sharing the interests but also organizing folks to work on specific projects related to that area

Helen Murtagh Sheehy: I think the big project within IDTF has been the liaison work with agencies and these liaisons report back at every ALA about developments. This has been really helpful

Shari Laster: The thing that makes it harder is that task forces aren't composed of consistent membership the way that committees rae

Shari Laster: are

Shari Laster: For who to reach out to, it's potentially every member of GODORT

ellen: I think I will just contact you -- task forces -- to see if you can help me find some volunteers. Hard to do in a chat

susan.paterson@ubc.ca: thanks that's a good point Shari

susan.paterson@ubc.ca: yes Ellen please do!

Valerie Glenn: I agree with Justin re: Task Force being a misleading term.

ellen: I agree with Justin -- MAGIRT has interest groups, and for cataloging it works well. \

Shari Laster: There are sometimes work/task projects that come out of TFs, like writing letters.

Karen Hogenboom: I think that's a good point, Justin. It might make it easier for outsiders if we shared vocabulary with other parts of ALA

Helen Murtagh Sheehy: The other thing that TFs have done is bring issues to Steering to work on. Whether they are called task forces or something else there need to be a space for action to move forward in the organization.

Valerie Glenn: Re: liaisons: I think they're a holdover from the time when Task Forces (at least FDTF) had ~3 meetings during one conference.

----- (10/09/2015 16:30) -----

Shari Laster: Practically speaking, it seems like the liaison structure is not really helping the committees bring issues to TFs and recruit help for projects/tasks

Shari Laster: Justin, if that is true it would be a disadvantage to switching from TFs to IGs.

Shari Laster: It helps Steering to have an organized channel for information and action items related to these three areas

Shari Laster: So if the IG coordinator is not bringing issues to Steering, who is?

Helen Murtagh Sheehy: In practical terms if you get rid of the liaisons from TF to Committees you need to figure out how to populate the committees. The Chair of GODORT isn't going to be able to fill them all

Valerie Glenn: Well, if we're talking about re-organizing GODORT, maybe we need to reinvent Steering. And instead of having a lot of standing committee chairs on Steering, make them Members at Large with responsibility for x amount of IGs. Similar to the ALA Executive Board model.

Shari Laster: I guess I'd want to say that bringing issues forward to Steering **should** still be the role of the IG coordinator :)

Shari Laster: Helen, maybe committees could be a little smaller!

----- (10/09/2015 16:34) -----

Helen Murtagh Sheehy: {possibly, but however we structure things it would be nice to build in a simple mechanism to temporarily expand a committee when a project is underway.

ellen: I can see Valerie's point. I used to be more active in MAGIRT and it seems to me that they have a pretty good organization. Perhaps looking at theirs might be an idea. Of course there may be different needs for GODORT than MAGIRT. Maybe each both.

Helen Murtagh Sheehy: oops please ignore all the bad grammar my keyboard is acting up!

Helen Murtagh Sheehy: always blame the keyb9orad

Karen Hogenboom: I think that projects are also pretty hard in committees, because the chairs tend to change every year so continuity is a problem.

ellen: I agree 1000% with Karen!

Helen Murtagh Sheehy: sure

Stephen Woods: ok

Shari Laster: random??? uh oh

Stephen Woods: yup three to a room

----- (10/09/2015 16:57) -----

Helen Murtagh Sheehy: some of use are working with antiques. Hope to get that remedied soon....

Karen Hogenboom: I have a similar setup to Justin but not a mic.

ellen: I do not but can get one from our trusty it person!

Helen Murtagh Sheehy: you could just do mics and have it like a conf call

----- (10/09/2015 17:00) -----

Helen Murtagh Sheehy: it might work to have the discussion in a room through chat and have someone take notes on the whiteboard

ellen: This has been a great session. Good ideas for the committee session depending on my other colleagues!!!!!! Thanks much.

Jenn Huck: Thanks, Ellen!

ellen: I found the task force folks talking helpful espeically in the beginning for context

----- (10/09/2015 17:02) -----

ellen: Web cam was somewhat helpful!

ellen: Putting names to faces!

Helen Murtagh Sheehy: thanks folks!

Karen Hogenboom: Thanks!

Jenn Huck: Thanks!

Helen Murtagh Sheehy: yes

Helen Murtagh Sheehy: as usual...

Helen Murtagh Sheehy: you too, bye

Breakout Chats

Breakout Chat:

Breakout 1:

Jenn Huck: Is anyone here?

Shari Laster: I am!

Jenn Huck: Hello!

Shari Laster: hello again!

Jenn Huck: Hi - Jenn here

Jenn Huck: Hi again!

Jenn Huck: Can you hear me?

Shari Laster: can hear just fine :)

ellen: Jenn I am here Ellen Caplan

Jenn Huck: Great! Hi Ellen

Shari Laster: I care about all three of these questions :)

Shari Laster: Where do you feel like starting?

ellen: Me too. But you are giving me ideas for the chat in nov.

Shari Laster: there's a ghost in the walls... !

Shari Laster: apparently we can't all type in one box at the same time

Jenn Huck: Good to know that it is not cool with Adobe connect to type at the same time in the same box

Shari Laster: FYI, I am laughing so hard right now. Sorry to keep writing all over everyone.

Jenn Huck: This is hard!

Jenn Huck: But we can do it together :)

Shari Laster: I think it might be better to have multiple chat boxes, or go through one topic at a time with a notetaker

Shari Laster: but this is fun

Jenn Huck: That's a good idea about multiple chat boxes or a central notetaker. That could be my role. I feel a little silly with the webcam on my and the audio on in the breakout session

Jenn Huck: I feel like this sort of environment worked better in Samantha's SLDTF virtual meeting. But that might have been Webex.

Shari Laster: I think it was connect? But I don't remember. I do recall using all chat boxes and doing pretty much this same thing. But not everyone loves online chat as much as I do.

Shari Laster: yes, I see the message

Jenn Huck: Great

Shari Laster: I appreciate the warning, I was in the middle of saying something the last time we all got yanked back from the breakout sessions :)

Stephen Woods: This group really go into the spirit of the breakout room. Lots of thoughts on the board. Thanks. We may have to educate the others (smile).

Jenn Huck: I got lucky again!

Shari Laster: Jenn, I'm going to have to sign off in a minute. Thanks for facilitating our group! It was fun.

Shari Laster: bye!!

Jenn Huck: bye!

ellen: Thanks for all the good ideas. I was just trying to see whether cataloging should be a real function of godort and if so what that should be. Good ideas. thanks.. again not trying to take over the task force discussion!

Jenn Huck: Of course!

Jenn Huck: This is good stuff.

Breakout 2:

Valerie Glenn: Same here

Valerie Glenn: I see Helen typing in one of the breakout boxes.

Stephen Woods: text boxes

Helen Murtagh Sheehy: so we chat here. VAlerie do you see this

Valerie Glenn: I do!

Helen Murtagh Sheehy: I agree,

Helen Murtagh Sheehy: Advocacy

Valerie Glenn: I struggle with how to focus. Are there activities we're doing that aren't core, that we could stop doing?

Valerie Glenn: No. That's why I'm struggling. =)

Helen Murtagh Sheehy: The need to bring people in is urgent I think our numbers are down to a point where it is difficult to get enough people to contribute

Valerie Glenn: Sorry - i don't think it likes multiple people typing at the same time!

Valerie Glenn: I think I accidentally deleted something Helen was typing

Valerie Glenn: Sure.

Valerie Glenn: Oh, that was me.

Valerie Glenn: re: FDTF

Breakout 3:

susan.paterson@ubc.ca: hi hope you can hear me!

Karen Hogenboom: I can hear you, but it's hard to tell which topic we are talking about

Sinai Wood: okay

Karen Hogenboom: OK, I that makes sense.

Sinai Wood: I can go with any of them too

Sinai Wood: They are odd, but keep us "honest" in getting the info moving around

Karen Hogenboom: I wish we could start from the beginning, with what we want those groups to do and then decide what to call them.

Sinai Wood: sounds good

Sinai Wood: yes

Karen Hogenboom: I think big ALA has some rules about what we can call things.

Karen Hogenboom: I worry that the librarians who work with gov info don't have the luxury of focusing on one of these.

Sinai Wood: both

Sinai Wood: from info comes project

Karen Hogenboom: I think it's both too, but maybe that should change.

Karen Hogenboom: I think that's a common issue!

Sinai Wood: pet projects are hard to keep up to date..cataloging toolkit example

Karen Hogenboom: I was in your seat, Susan, for a year and tried to start a project. It really became my project.

Sinai Wood: ;-)

Karen Hogenboom: It is too much, and I still feel bad that I couldn't finish it.

Karen Hogenboom: I'm thinking of SLDTF

Karen Hogenboom: SOrry!

Sinai Wood: I'm not a member of IDTF, but i did go to the last meeting; don't recall a new project

Karen Hogenboom: It was a national inventory of online preservation projects.

Karen Hogenboom: for state documents

Karen Hogenboom: Yes, there was no way.

Sinai Wood: cut/paste?

Sinai Wood: yes

Karen Hogenboom: If the purpose of GODORT is to dispense information, I think they're necessary. They're not a good venue for getting things done.

Karen Hogenboom: Yes, I think Helen was concerned about Steering

Karen Hogenboom: That would be great!

Sinai Wood: REGP is doing more work virtually

Sinai Wood: yes! cold!

Sinai Wood: Rare &

Sinai Wood: Endangered

Sinai Wood: yes, Shari

Sinai Wood: Laster

Karen Hogenboom: I think it depends on the function of GODORT--what value do we offer? How can we increase value?

Stephen Woods: Karen and Sinai. Can you practice typing in the text boxes?

Sinai Wood: sorry!

Stephen Woods: no problem this is part of the point of doing these sessions.

Karen Hogenboom: I think we are summarizing in the boxes, Stephen.

Stephen Woods: great. just wanted to make sure you were aware. no judgement

Karen Hogenboom: I agree with Sinai--we can't decide on our own what people need. But this is a good venue for gathering info and almost no one showed up.