

SHOULD ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING BE IN GODORT'S FUTURE?

A Discussion Paper on the possibility of
GODORT publishing an electronic occasional paper series

prepared by

a working group of the GODORT Publications Committee

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To be discussed at ALA Midwinter, 3-5:30, Friday, Jan. 18, Hotel Monteleone
Queen Anne BR, New Orleans,

Introduction

60% of current GPO documents are published in some electronic format. This tidal wave of non-print docs raises questions about access, about archiving and about the digital divide.

As a national voice for depository librarians, should GODORT play an active role in this still evolving electronic environment?

If GODORT does begin to publish electronically, we are really talking about online or web publishing. Given that most GODORT members have full-time jobs, it is not realistic to expect volunteers to have the constant supply of disposable time necessary

to burn CD-Roms, create DVDs or scan docs for microfiche, not to mention the cost of equipment, material and postage.

As we consider the possibility of electronic publishing, the GODORT Publications Committee thought it might be helpful to list some initial pros, cons and questions on a specific topic – GODORT publishing an occasional paper series. We hope this paper will generate discussion and ultimately, a decision. Background information is included for pros and con of electronic publishing in general, and also a bibliography.

PROS: SHOULD GODORT PUBLISH AN ELECTRONIC OCCASIONAL PAPER SERIES? (in random order)

Could encourage GODORT members to publish in a way that supports

their careers, supports the general knowledge about government information, and encourage future revenue-producing projects.

Could provide an electronic “home” for fugitive documents, grey literature and disappearing documents.

Could raise the public profiles of GODORT in the specific and government documents in general.

Could provide a forum for GODORT editorials, letters, etc.

Could generate a positive revenue stream through reprints/permissions.

Could encourage publication of current information and “hot” topics.

Could publish quick responses to issues about government information.

Could provide an electronic archive of GODORT publications and documents from Task Forces and Committees.

Could update print publications for which GODORT has copyright and make them available online.

Could republish significant documents from State Government information organizations (with permission).

CONS: SHOULD GODORT PUBLISH AN ELECTRONIC OCCASIONAL PAPER SERIES? (in random order)

Would require a significant commitment of personnel, time and money.

Could require organizational changes, more than just a sub-group of the Publications Committee.

Would require a commitment to migrate as new technologies emerge.

Time/effort to create/update business plan.

Time/effort to prepare a master source file.

Possible need to purchase outside expertise.

Significant amount of electronic/server space would be needed for current, future and archived publications.

QUESTIONS:

Does the GODORT Publications Committee, (even possibly augmented with additional GODORT members interested in this project), have the time to take on a new, long-term commitment such as electronic publishing, or should a new group be formed within GODORT?

How much server space would we need (current/future) and where would the server be housed?

In what format/s would we publish? Individual documents? An e-zine? Text

versions? PDF versions? HTML versions? Combination of above?

How do we make clear written guidelines for the Publications Committee, and the

Dttp editor and editorial board in accepting manuscripts for appropriate publication? What would be the differences between them and publication of a book manuscript? For example, appropriate for an electronic occasional paper series would be articles that are too long or having too many graphics for publication in *Dttp*. They may need frequent updating, immediate publication, and archiving. They may be a core of a future publication for revenue for GODORT. They may be reprints of copyright transferred materials or U.S. docs useful to GODORT membership electronically.

Would a possible e-zine be available by subscription? Financial implications?

Would GODORT become a PURL provider?

Is Internet access universal enough?

Is email access universal enough?

Would GODORT also publish print versions of docs? Some? All?

Would advertisers transfer to electronic version?

Will readers adjust to reading docs online?

Any legal implications? Copyright implications?

PROCESS:

How do we proceed?

Organization of a working group? Working within GODORT and getting approval.

Guidelines need to be created for editorial policy, and other aspects mentioned above.

Plan – call for manuscript submissions for a prototype example to be presented at ALA Annual 2002.

EDITORIAL POLICIES ISSUES

Style guides (CSS, Chicago Manual and other)

Citation issues

Fee-based or not?

Disclaimers -- when, what are where?

Disclosure statement(s)

Privacy considerations for manuscripts

Manuscript submission rules

Review process

Construction of Editorial Board

Criteria for acceptance

Foreign translation and other subsidiary rights matters

Republication, permissions

Interface with print publishers

Frequency of and routes for updating

DRM systems

Indexing and thesauri construction

Abstracting services

Publicity and marketing policies

Formats

Data, graphic, GIS, etc. IP issues

Staffing

Input of volunteers

Scope of materials which will be considered

Archiving

Mission statement or outline of intent of this endeavor

Description of interface with various groups within GODORT (formal or informal channels?, IFLA, and other law and corporate lib groups, if pertinent)

Funding

Evaluation of electronic series (shall this be formalized, i.e GODORT will begin this and review it in, for example, two years)

EDITORIAL POLICIES BACKGROUND INFORMATION

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

"Advantages and Disadvantages of Electronic Journals: Business School Faculty Views." S.E. Hahn, C. Speier, J. Palmer, and D. Wren. *Journal of Business and Finance Librarianship*, 1999, v. 5, no. 1, p. 19-30.

This article discusses a research project which identifies the advantages and disadvantages of e-journals based on a sample of business school faculty. Could be of interest to the committee for general discussion.

Ariadne. (Digital Library Initiatives.) <http://www.ariadne.ac.uk/>

The Business of Electronic Publishing. John Colette and Meredith Quinn. Sydney, AFTRS, 1997.

Technical and about the actual business, but has some interesting points.

"CDL, UC Press Collaborate to Offer Books on the Web." Paula J. Hane. *Information Today*, Sep. 2001, v. 18, Issue 8, p. 43.

Short discussion of a project similar to GODORT's project, maybe talk with them about the issues.

"Communicating Off the Page." Marylaine Block. *Library Journal*, Sept. 2001, v. 126, Issue 15, p. 50.

This upbeat article on web publishing by librarians shows the need and some of the disadvantages. It covers how such resources facilitate communication, cooperation, community service and freedom of speech.

"Copyright Clearance Center launches online approvals." Donna L. Goodison. *Boston Business Journal*. April 14, 2000, v. 20, Issue 10, p. 11.

The Copyright Clearance Center Inc. this week provides technology that allows publishers to use their own web sites to grant instant permission for reprints of their copyrighted material and receive compensation.

"The Crisis in Electronic Government Record Keeping: A Strategy for Long Term Storage.. Proposed State Electronic Data Archive for Washington State." Philip Coombs. *Library Computing*. 1999, v. 18, No. 3, p. 196-202.

"The Cyberarchive: A Look at the Storage and Preservation of Websites." Carol A. Casey. *College and Research Libraries*. July 1998, v. 5, No. 4, p. 304-10.

Digital Library Information and Resources. Ben Gross. Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
<http://www.canis.uiuc.edu/~bgross/dl/>

"Digital Rights Management: Technology Evolves to Aid Content Marketing." Mark Walter. *Seybold Report on Internet Publishing*. April 2000, v. 4, Issue 8, p. 9.

D-Lib Forum and D-Lib Magazine. ("Facilitating and Supporting the Community Developing the Technology of the Global Digital Library") <http://www.dlib.org/dlib.html>

"E-Books and their Future in Academic Libraries-an Overview." L. Snowhill. *D-Lib magazine*, July/Aug. 2001, v. 7, no. 7-8.

California's California Digital Library formed an E-Book Task Force in August 2000 to evaluate academic libraries' experiences with electronic books, etc. Some of the issues stated here may be of concern to the committee.

"Electronic Publications and their Implications in Information Work." K. Sambasivan. *International Information, Communication and Education*, Sept. 2000, v. 19, no 2, p. 210-18.

Very general but supports reproduction of products in a digital/Internet format.

"Electronic Publishing: Issues and Challenges." G.G. Hakar. *International Information, communication and Education*, March 2000, v. 19, no1, p. 26-36.

Presents a definition of electronic publishing and considers the difference between electronic documents and printed documents. It talks about the importance of electronic publishing and the role of electronic publishing in libraries and future trends.

"Electronic Publishing and Copyright." Christine Deschamps. *Interlending and Document Supply*. 2000, v. 28, No. 4, p. 161-2.

"Electronic Scholarly Publication: Quo Vadis?" Stevan R. Harnad. *Serials Review*. 1995, v. 21, Number 1, p. 78-80.

"From Wood Pulp to the Web: the Online Evolution. Reference Sources Moving from Print to Electronic Publication." Ken Winter. *American Libraries*. May 2000, v. 31, Issue 5, p. 70-4.

"Future Publication Plans of the U.S. Geological Survey: Paper Plans, Electronic Dreams." *Proceedings of the Thirty-First Meeting of the Geoscience Information Society*. 1997, p. 37-44.

"In Context: Interview with Robin Williamson, the Context MD. Electronic Law Reports: Joint Venture Publication of Case Reports." Laurence Eastham. *The Law Librarian*. September 1997, v. 28, p. 147-153.

Institutional and Policy Issues in the Development of the Digital Library. Brian Kahin. University of Michigan. <http://www.press.umich.edu/jep/works/kahin.dl.html>

"Interactive Publication: Extending the American Physical Society's Discipline-Specific Model for Electronic Publishing." Stevan R. Harnad. *Serials Review*. 1992, v. 18, No. 1, p. 58-61.

"Integrity Lost in Cyberspace." Alair Townsend. *Crain's New York Business*, Aug. 28, 2000, v. 16, Issue 35, p 8.

Discusses concerns involved in electronic publishing. "Interactivity is the watchword. Web visitors want a different experience from print, so efforts abound to create on-line communities, chat rooms and forums. News organizations like ours must be clear whether these interactive features are news or entertainment. Should editorial or business-side staff be in charge? In the rush to post breaking news on the Web, do print standards of accuracy and careful fact-checking apply?"

Journal of Electronic Publishing. University of Michigan Press.

<http://www.press.umich.edu/jep/>

"Legal Deposit and Preservation of Digital Publications: a Review of Research and Development Activity." A. Muir. *Journal of Documentation*, v. 57, no. 5, p. 652-82.

Since this project is about reproduction of electronic publishing, this article brings up issues and concerns from which the project could benefit.

"Lesson: Know Why You Are Creating an Online Presence and Define Economic Outcomes That You Expect." Chaim Yudkowsky. *Business First – Louisville*. August 25, 1997, v. 14, Issue 3, p. 16.

"The Library as Publisher: A Q & A with the University of Arizona's Karen Williams." *Library Journal*. November 1, 2001, v. 126, no. 18, p. 49-51.

"Life Expectancy of Storage Media." *The Unabashed Librarian*. 2000, no. 116, p. 23.

"LOCKESS: A Permanent Web Publishing and Access System." Vicky Reich, Stanford University and David S.H. Rosenthal, Sun Microsystems Laboratories. *D-Lib Magazine*. June 2001, v. 7, no. 6. <http://www.dlib.org/dlib/june01/reich/06reich.html>

"Made to Measure." Robin Mellors-Bourne. *Electronics and Communication Engineering Journal*, Aug. 2001, v. 13, no. 4, p 146-7.

Report of an IEE questionnaire: 34 percent of readers read most of each issue of the *Electronics and Communication Engineering Journal*, while 64 percent skim or read parts of it. Twelve percent of readers are students, 16 percent are retired, 54 percent are employed by companies, and less than 10 percent are in an academic or research organization. If the numbers translated to other electronic publications it shows a very good reason for online publishing.

"A Market Whose Time Has Come." Anthony Tedesco. *Writer*, Sept. 2001, v. 114, Issue 9, p. 16.

Presents advice for writers on online publishing. Has some interesting points, a general piece with ideas for distribution.

Marketing and Management of Content." S. Rother, G. Lewald, and S.A. Butscher." *Information Management and Consulting*, Sept. 2001, v. 16, no. 3, p. 55-9.

This article brings up issues of marketing electronically published items. Could be of interest to the committee considering the project.

"The Message of the Medium: the Risks and Opportunities of Migrating Pre-electronic Government Information Products to the Internet." F.W. Horton. *Journal of Government Information*. Jan/Feb. 2001, v. 28, no. 1, p. 1-20.

Interesting assessment of a study carried out in 1997-1999 by NCLIS, FDLF, and GPO.

"A Model for Storage of Different Volumes of a Journal in Electronic Data Processing: The Dortmund Online Library System, DOBIS." Martin Buren. International Association of Technological University Libraries Meeting 10th: 1983: Essen, Germany. *The Future of Serials: Publication, Automation and Management IATUL*. 1984, p. 195-200.

"A New Publication for a New Challenge: Preparing to Publish a Web Version of an Information Science Journal." John MacColl and Lyndon Pugh. *Ariadne*. September 1998, Issue 17, <http://www.ariadne.ac.uk/issue17/publication>

"Online Journals: Print Publishers Move From Pilot to Full Rollout." *Seybold Report on Internet Publishing*. February 1997, v. 1 Issue 6, p. 10-21.

"Open E-Book Forum Launches Standards Initiatives." *Information Today*, Nov. 2000, v. 17, Issue 10, p 51.

Reports that Open E-Book Forum, the international nonprofit trade organization for electronic publishing, announced initiatives in the e-publishing market. It looks at standards and their importance in e-publishing. This is not a key topic but might have some interest in the future.

"Paper Still Wins When it Comes to Gravitas." Philip Fine. *Times Higher Education Supplement*, Jun.15, 2001 Issue 1491, p. 14.

Reports the quality of online scholarly books and journals in Quebec City, Canada. Comparison on the quality of electronic and traditional books; Problems in electronic scholarly book publishing; Recommendations: 1. New approaches to scholarly publication be encouraged, based on non-profit, electronic publication and distribution. 2. An electronic publishing best practices services be established so that institutions develop formal e-publishing guidelines in cases of tenure, promotion and salary, and 3. Methodologies be designed to deal with preservation. Details available at <http://web.mala.bc.ca/hsstc/Final/Credibility.htm>

PURL. OCLC. <http://purl.oclc.org/>

"A Review of the Print Journal System in the Sciences, with Prospects for Improvement in Deficiencies and Costs through Electronic Publishing: Practices and Attitudes of Publishers and Printers, Librarians, and Scientific Authors." T. Stankus. *Science and Technology Libraries*, 1999, v. 18, no. 2-3, p. 21-41.

"A Role for Libraries in Electronic Publication." (Originally distributed on BITNET's E Journal, May 1994.) F. Quinn. *Serials Review*, 1995, v. 21, no. 1, p. 27-30.

"Scholarly Publication and Copyright in Networked Electronic Publishing." Laura N. Gasaway. *Library Trends*. Spring 1995, v. 43, p. 679-700.

"Scientific Publishing in a Digital Age." Joseph I. Rosenbuam. *Chemical Innovation*, v. 30, no. 6 June 2000, p 47-53.

Supports doing e-publishing.

"Some Implications for Publishing of Electronic Document Storage and Supply." Maurice B. Line. International Association of Technological University Libraries Meeting 10th: 1983: Essen, Germany. *The Future of Serials: Publication, Automation and Management IATUL*. 1984, p. 219-30.

"Volumes of Change." *Corporate Legal Times*. January 2000, v. 10, Issue 98, p. BWB 6.

"Web weaving." Bob Moseley. *Folio: the Magazine for Magazine Management*. May 2000, v. 29, Issue 6, p. 118.

Intellectual property issues:

"Copyright Clearance Center Offers Services on the Internet." Goldie Blumenstyk. *Chronicle of Higher Education*, Apr. 21, 1995, v 41, Issue 32, p. 32.

Talks about the importance of copyright issues in republishing on the Internet and the establishment of a center to help.

"Newsbreak--Tasini Case Final Decision: Authors Win." Carol Ebbinghouse. *Searcher*, Sep. 2001, v. 9, Issue 8, p. 53.

About copyright issues including suggestions for librarians on how to deal with copyright issues in electronic publishing.

"The Ethics of Intellectual Property and the New Information Technologies," *IEEE Spectrum*, Aug 1999, v 36, n.8, p 29-37.

Summary of discussion of the ethics of intellectual property in relation to "novel information technologies" including e-publishing. Helps with copyright issues.

"What to Know Before Reissuing Old Titles as E-Books." Jane Ginsburg. *Communications of the ACM*, Sep. 2001, v. 44, Issue 9, p. 25.

Discusses the issue of copyright in electronic publishing in the US.

Technical Information that may be of Interest:

"Clickability Introduces New Online Reporting System for Publishers" Paula Hane. *Information Today*, Sep. 2001, v. 18, Issue 8, p. 41.

Discusses the features of Clickability Interactivity Reports for online publishing and the management of Web content using this tool. May be of interest to the person in charge of the project.

"Innovations in the Organization of Electronic Information." R. San Segundo maneul. *International Information, Communication and Education*, Sept. 2000, v. 19, no 2, p. 175-82.

Discusses format for e-publishing.

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