

MUSICK LIBRARY OF FAIRMONT STATE UNIVERSITY

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY STATEMENT

As a selective Federal Depository Library, the Musick Library of Fairmont State University houses and administers federal documents distributed through the Depository Library Program as provided by Title 44 of the U. S. Code. The Fairmont State University Library has been a Government Documents Depository since 1884.

PHILOSOPHY

The Government Documents collection is designed to provide access to those documents of primary importance to the citizens of the north central section of West Virginia. The service area for Fairmont State University covers almost one-third of the state, and services and collections are developed to meet the needs of the people of this region. With increasing access via the Internet, the Musick Library attempts to incorporate electronic, as well as paper and microform, government documents into its online catalog, and to provide open access to anyone using that catalog, which may be accessed at: <http://marlo.fairmontstate.edu>. The emphasis is on providing easy access to the user community.

PURPOSE

1. To provide information and reference service to the students, faculty, and staff members of Fairmont State University, regardless of location, and to the citizens of north central West Virginia, in cooperation with the Regional Depository Library located at West Virginia University.
2. To receive and process documents from selected categories which are distributed through the Federal Depository Library Services Program.
3. To keep records of materials received by verifying shipping lists and maintaining a record of the pieces received, with particular emphasis on cataloging all materials received and keeping documentation in the online library catalog.
4. To acquire and maintain other documents which are not part of the distribution program, but which are appropriate for the needs of the user community.

USER COMMUNITY

Fairmont State University is the largest public college in West Virginia, second to West Virginia University in size. It serves a thirteen county region in north central West Virginia, and provides both undergraduate and graduate level courses, and has Pierpont Community & Technical College physically located on campus. The current student population numbers approximately 7,500 students. As a public institution, Fairmont State University and Pierpont Community & Technical College seek to provide a quality and affordable education to the region. Further, both institutions reach into the communities to serve the needs of citizens, of businesses, health and wellness organizations including hospitals, long-

term care facilities, etc. Coal is a major resource of the region and training and support for the coal industry is an important function.

Curriculum and Community Support

Publications of the United State Government generally support a significant percentage of programs and courses offered by both Fairmont State University and Pierpont Community & Technical College. The community's informational needs cover a broad spectrum, many of which can be met with the documents received, either in print or electronically.

Areas of interest and specialization include energy, environmental issues, census and demographics, particularly as related to business and economic development. Of prime importance also are health care, the coal industry and mining, and small business development.

In the provision of reference services and instructional services, librarians include government documents as an important source of information.

General Selection Guidelines

Bibliographic Access Tools:

The Depository will evaluate for purchase those bibliographic tools available from private vendors that improve access to government documents.

Special Considerations:

Special considerations will be given to assure that the Fairmont State University Library keeps up-to-date with materials in the new and emerging formats, and that appropriate hardware is acquired to handle materials being distributed in electronic format. The Library has decided that electronic access is essential, to serve all citizens of the region more effectively. The online catalog is composed of materials from a consortium of libraries, MARLO (MARion Libraries Online). MARLO includes all of the public school libraries of Marion County, all of the public libraries of Marion County, Glenville State College, and the libraries of Fairmont State University and Pierpont Community & Technical College. The goal of the Fairmont State depository library is to make all government documents, including those in the electronic format, available through the online catalog of materials.

Gifts and Exchange Programs:

The Depository Library will cooperate fully with the Regional Depository library at West Virginia University to assure that guidelines are being followed and that weeded materials are made available to WVU.

Duplicates:

As a general rule, the Fairmont State Depository will not keep nor will it acquire duplicate materials, unless there is a demand for heavily used items.

Cooperative Programs

The Fairmont State Library is a member of OCLC and freely loans, without charge, to other institutions. This includes government resources as well as the library's collections of books, audio and video titles, etc. Through Interlibrary Loan, resources will be made available to other libraries throughout the state and the United States.