

This year's ALA Annual Conference in Chicago will be more than just a regular event: it'll also be a celebration of ALA's 150th anniversary. Along with all of the celebratory events to commemorate this milestone, GODORT is proud to host its own compelling programs, highlighting our rich history and the vital role government information professionals play in safeguarding public access to government information.

Each year, ALA selects a limited number of educational programs that goes through a rigorous juried process. This year, GODORT's dedicated Programming Committee collaborated with members of the government information community to develop a standout program entitled "Government Information Lifeguards: Preserving Public Access to our Nation's Digital Resources." I'm thrilled to announce that the ALA jury selected this panel presentation, featuring experts from academic institutions and nonprofit organizations. They will share some of their critically important efforts to preserve and sustain continued access to digital government information, efforts that feel especially urgent amid the troubling alterations and removals of such information since January 2025. It is heartening that the ALA jury has selected our program to help spread the word more broadly at the Annual Conference about what is going on, why it matters, and what we all can do to combat the loss of government information.

Complementing ALA's anniversary events, GODORT's Chair's Program—"150 Years of Government Information at

ALA: Sesquicentennial of Government Documents Librarianship"—offers a captivating historical overview. Panelists will revisit the early challenges libraries encountered with government information since 1876, highlighting ALA's pivotal role in fostering solutions. Tracing this evolution through the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries, the program will celebrate key figures who shaped our field, explore their enduring legacies, and examine how these challenges have transformed over time.

Beyond these highlights, GODORT invites conference attendees to our "GODORT 101: Getting to Know the Government Documents Round Table" orientation and the General Membership Meeting. To maximize inclusivity, committee meetings will convene virtually before the in-person conference, ensuring broader participation regardless of travel constraints.

ALA Annual Conference is always a great time to connect and learn—and this year will be no different. I look forward to seeing you all virtually and in-person in Chicago this June.

Julia Ezzo (julia@msu.edu), Government Information, Packaging, and Political Science Librarian, Michigan State University