I met with Alex Toth of Pacific University, Claudia Weston of PSU and Arlene Weible of the State Library at PSU on May 14, 2010. This group of volunteers will make up the core of depository librarians to discuss the cataloging of pre-1976 Federal Government Documents. We first discussed products that will assist with access to the documents: OCLC collection sets and Lexis-Nexis for record sets for hearings. OCLC does have a collection set of pre-1976 government documents but that set needs to be refined. Would OCLC be interested in us refining the set?

We all agreed that hearings would be a focus as there is no stable, non-commercial comprehensive electronic home for them. LexisNexis offers a digital hearings collection with MARC records, but we are unclear as to whether these can be loaded into OCLC and thereby shared with others. If these records have SuDoc numbers then consortia libraries could attach their holdings to them and indicate print holdings via item lines in local records. Claudia was wondering if the LexisNexis® Congressional Hearings Digital Collection is on the consortia “wish list.” PSU is interested in the product; U of W already has it. Julie contacted Greg Doyle to ask this question; he indicated that it wasn’t a product that had been of interest to Alliance members. Claudia will contact Lexis-Nexis representatives Andrea Stevenson & Marcy Pearlman about pricing and MARC record information.

Arlene talked about the University of Montana and their project of record batch loading for monographic serials (with OCLC numbers). She will contact them for more information.

The group recommends we survey the Orbis Cascade libraries as to what sets/series should be done first. The hearings are a given. As for other sets, we would need input from consortia depository libraries. Some suggestions were Area Wage Survey, Labor Bulletins, and USGS publications. It was mentioned that OSU has digitized more of their USGS collection. Are there other folks out there who have digitized/cataloged special sets? Is this a good time to point out important sets that are underutilized? Does a geographic focus make sense as a place to start?

As soon as Karen Highum of U of W returns from vacation, Julie will contact her for more details concerning their project. Karen did share the ranges they have already done and it is quite extensive. Were they able to get all the OCLC numbers by this method?

Arlene also mentioned that on 5/13/10, GPO sent out a Draft Cooperative Cataloging Partnership Guideline. We are interested in seeing the quality of the record standard they are requiring. One of the issues we will be discussing is minimal standard for a record.