



Barbara J. Costello, Government Documents Librarian and Associate Professor

Barbara Costello is the Government Documents Librarian at the DuPont-Ball Library, reporting to Head of Public Services Jason Martin. Costello manages and oversees the operations of the DuPont-Ball Library as a selective Federal Depository Library and as a State of Florida Depository Library.

The Library's participation in the U.S. Government Publication Office (GPO) Federal Depository Library Program is governed by the statutory requirements of Title 44 U.S. Code and it is Costello's responsibility to ensure that all GPO-mandated policies and procedures for depository libraries are followed by the DuPont-Ball Documents Department. She also provides in-depth reference service for the documents collection.

Costello has published several research articles in top journals in the fields of government information and academic librarianship. She has conducted two consecutive groundbreaking studies of the online availability of U.S. congressional hearing transcripts. The results of both studies were published in peer-reviewed journals, with the most recent article appearing in *GIQ: Government Information Quarterly*, which is the top journal in the field today and is international in scope. Costello's studies on online congressional hearings have attracted the interest of the Congressional Research Service (CRS), the research arm of the U.S. Congress. In addition, her 2008 *GIQ* article is cited on the GPO Web site in conjunction with a change in GPO policy that permits selective depository libraries to opt to receive hearings in electronic format only.

Costello also partnered with a faculty member in the Stetson School of Business in a unique study that utilized Blackboard course management software to deliver library instruction to accounting students. Results of the study were published, with Costello as the lead author, in the *Journal of Academic Librarianship*, a top journal in the field.

Her ongoing research interests include online availability of government information, including free, Web-based government databases, and electronic delivery of library instruction.

Costello has held leadership and committee positions in national, state, and regional professional groups, including the Government Documents Round Table (GODORT) of the American Library Association, the Government Documents Member Group of the Florida Library Association, and the Central Florida Library Cooperative Government Documents Interest Group. She served on the statewide committee that drafted a State Plan for federal depository libraries in the state of Florida.