The Dual-Media Concept

... saves money and space without sacrificing research effectiveness

As viewed by Evan Farber, author of Classified List of Periodicals for the College Library (Faxon, 1957 & 1970) and a member of the Institute's Editorial Advisory Board,

"Because The Congressional Record and its predecessors contain so much information about the activities of Congress, including the votes and near-verbatim reporting of debates, it is an essential resource for all courses relating to American government and should, therefore, be available in every academic library. On the other hand, its very comprehensiveness not only creates a space problem for most libraries, but also results in disproportionately high acquisitions costs for new libraries attempting to acquire complete backfile runs.

Microfilm offers a partial solution in that it is less expensive initially and saves valuable shelf space. One of the major obstacles to its acceptance however, has been the fact that students and other researchers find that searching for references in microform indexes is inconvenient, time consuming, and ultimately discouraging to effective research.

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