



DAVITA E. VANCE-COOKS
Director
U.S. Government Publishing Office

Davita E. Vance-Cooks is the Director of the U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO), the agency's chief executive officer. A seasoned business executive with more than 35 years of private sector and Federal Government management experience, she is the first woman and first African-American to lead the agency.

Vance-Cooks has held a succession of senior management positions at the GPO since joining the agency in 2004. She served as the Deputy Managing Director of Customer Services, with the responsibility for overseeing the GPO's liaison with Federal agencies for in-house print production and printing procurement services. She then served as the Managing Director of GPO's Publications and Information Sales business unit, where she oversaw a large print distribution/supply chain operation with customers across the United States.

In January 2011, Vance-Cooks was named the GPO's Chief of Staff. In December 2011, she was named Deputy Public Printer, and in that capacity she served as Acting Public Printer from January 2012-August 2013. President Barack Obama nominated Vance-Cooks to be Public Printer on May 9, 2013, and the U.S. Senate confirmed her as the 27th Public Printer on August 1, 2013. In December 2014, her title was changed to Director as the result of legislation she supported re-designating the GPO as the Government Publishing Office, in recognition of the GPO's role as a provider of digital as well as print services.

Under her leadership the GPO has followed a program of cutting costs while improving services, generating positive net income for the agency each year while modernizing the GPO's operations and expanding the availability of Government information digitally via mobile apps, bulk data downloads, and e-Books. Her objective has been to move the GPO from a print-centric to a content-centric focus in the digital era, a strategy that was validated by a congressionally-mandated study of the GPO by the National Academy of Public Administration. The agency has earned several digital Government achievement awards, was the first legislative branch agency to move to cloud technology, and has partnered with the private sector to increase information access. At the same time she has worked to improve work life at the GPO. The level of EEO complaints at the GPO has reached an historic low. The agency has been rated as a "best place to work" by the GPO's employees and as an "innovative agency" by the Partnership for Public Service.

Before coming to the GPO, Vance-Cooks held several private sector management positions in the health insurance industry. She was the Senior Vice-President of Operations for NYLCare MidAtlantic Health. She served as the Director of Customer Service and Claims, Director of Membership and Billing, and Director of Market Research and Product Development for Blue Cross Blue Shield Plans. She also served as the General Manager of HTH Worldwide Insurance Services. Vance-Cooks holds a B.A. from Tufts University and an M.B.A. from Columbia University. She and her husband Clifford Cooks reside in Fairfax County, VA. They are the parents of two grown children.