



# NASIG Newsletter

Vol. 23, no. 2

June 2008

eISSN 1542-3417

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

PRESIDENT'S CORNER	1
ELECTION RESULTS	2
2008 BYLAWS AMENDMENTS	3
TREASURER'S REPORT	4
TECH PLAN IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE	5
23 <sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE (2008)	
PPC UPDATE	7
2008 HORIZON AWARD WINNER ESSAY	7
PROFILES	
LINDA PITTS	9
PUBLICATIONS/PR COMMITTEE	12
OTHER NASIG NEWS	
NEW NASIGGUIDE AVAILABLE	13
NASIG ARCHIVES: A TRIP TO THE PAST	14
CALL FOR <i>PROCEEDINGS</i> RECORDERS	15
CALL FOR <i>NEWSLETTER</i> CONFERENCE REPORTERS	15
COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORTS	
ARCHIVIST	16
AWARDS & RECOGNITION	19
BYLAWS	21
CONTINUING EDUCATION	21
DATABASE & <i>DIRECTORY</i>	22
ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS	23
LIBRARY SCHOOL OUTREACH	24
MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	25
<i>NEWSLETTER</i>	26
NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS	27
PROGRAM PLANNING	28
PUBLICATIONS/PUBLIC RELATIONS	30
TRANSLATORS RESOURCE TEAM	31
CITATIONS	32
TITLE CHANGES	33
CALENDAR	34

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Char Simser, NASIG President

My presidency may be winding down but NASIG is busier than ever. That may be typical for this time of year as we prepare for the annual conference, but a number of new initiatives ratcheted things up a bit! I send a hearty "thank-you" to the board, task force and committee chairs, and members who allow the wheels of NASIG to keep turning. I would encourage you to read the annual reports in this issue of the *Newsletter* to get a real feel for the work being done by our all-volunteer crews!



Char says this UK landmark was on her must-see list.

I had the honor to attend the UKSG annual conference in April. In addition to the trip being my first to the United Kingdom, I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to represent NASIG and to compare notes and network with our counterparts across the Atlantic. You've read in past reports about the make-up of UKSG and the differences in our conferences, so I won't repeat that here. Let me just say that I was extremely impressed with the conference, the programming, and the welcoming delegates who were genuinely interested to hear about NASIG! There was some excellent blogging during the conference. Check out LiveSerials:

[[link:http://liveserials.blogspot.com/2008\\_04\\_01\\_archive.html](http://liveserials.blogspot.com/2008_04_01_archive.html)] for summaries of programming that I know you'll find extremely relevant.



Low tide at Torquay, site of this year's UKSG conference.

I shared a number of NASIG "firsts" in my greetings to the delegates at the conference:

- an online-only election
- a new conference registration system tied into our membership database
- a membership database integrated with our web functionality
- organizational sponsorships at the annual conference

I also mentioned that we plan to hire an administrative staff person by next spring. UKSG had a "first", too, this year - their first hotel/conference center-based conference, which I've heard was a tremendous success and attracted more than 700 attendees to Torquay, Devon on the English Riviera. While that may sound like a warm location, the weather was similar to what I'd left behind in Kansas - cool and windy, overcast with intermittent, gorgeous sunshine, a little drizzle, and snow! I invited the delegates to come to Phoenix where I promised them it would be much warmer.

I do want to go back to that list of "firsts". The last item is a big change for NASIG but one we've been discussing for the last couple of years in a variety of venues from town halls and brainstorming sessions at our annual conferences, in discussions about our financial development, in numerous board minutes, and in articles in the *Newsletter*. The board voted to introduce organizational sponsorships this year, which will help underwrite some of our conference costs. We'll talk further about this decision at the business meeting on Friday during the conference and look forward to members' input as we continue to shape our guidelines for future events.

There is a "hot off the press" development underway that I am delighted to share: NASIG is in discussion with Haworth/Taylor & Francis about assuming full editorial responsibilities for *The Serials Librarian*. The details, which would include a transitional period with current editor Jim Cole and perhaps some perks for NASIG members, will be ironed out this summer. Many thanks to Bill Cohen at Haworth for recognizing the benefits this will bring to both our organizations.

I look forward to serving as past president and envision many exciting adventures in the coming year. It has been a pleasure to work with outgoing board members Bob Schatz, Alison Roth, and Denise Novak and to get to know them as colleagues and friends. I hope to enjoy that same relationship with incoming members-at-large Bob Boissy, Virginia Taffurelli, and Sarah George Wessel. I am excited to turn the reins over to a couple of "young 'uns" in Jill Emery and Rick Anderson, who are two of the most dedicated to NASIG folks with whom I have worked.

Thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving as your president. It has been a memorable year.

## 2008 ELECTION RESULTS

Gail Julian, Chair, Nominations & Elections Committee

The 2008 election results are in! As you know, we had a wonderful slate for both vice president/president-elect and member at large.

NASIG has so many members who support and love the organization, and I think that was demonstrated again this year.

The results are:

Vice-President/President-Elect: Rick Anderson

Members at Large:  
Bob Boissy  
Virginia Taffurelli

Sarah George Wessel

See the related article in this issue for more information on the bylaws amendments passed in this election.

Congratulations everyone!

## 2008 BYLAWS AMENDMENTS

Konstantin Gurevich, Chair, Bylaws Committee

This year, the Bylaws Committee presented and the membership approved two amendments to the Bylaws. As is most often the case, the initiative came from the board, which felt that a few small but important changes needed to be made to the Bylaws.

The first amendment concerned the term of office of NASIG treasurer. Being highly technical and carrying a lot of responsibility, the treasurer's position at NASIG is the only one besides the president's that requires a lengthy apprenticeship. It means that in some years, NASIG has both the sitting treasurer and the trainee treasurer. The wording of the Bylaws article describing the position of the treasurer was such that it could be interpreted that the treasurer's total term of office was four years. The board felt that this placed too much burden on the individual elected to be treasurer, and so the amendment clarified that the new treasurer should be elected to a term of three years, serving out the first year as treasurer-elect. The first year would also coincide with the sitting treasurer's last year in office. This ensures continuity and limits the burden placed on our volunteer treasurers.

The other amendment concerned the fiscal year for membership dues. Until now, the fiscal year corresponded to the calendar year, which meant that if somebody joined NASIG in the middle of the year, say, right before the annual conference, this new member essentially paid the full annual amount for only a portion of the year. This may not have been too burdensome when the dues were \$25, but that is no longer the case. In addition, all dues renewals were coming in at the end of the year, thus creating a very uneven workload for those who process them. At the same time, the new technology that NASIG continues to implement made it possible

to introduce an individual (rolling) fiscal year, which starts with the date when a new member's registration is actually processed. The passing of the amendment makes NASIG more welcoming to new members and reduces the workload for the treasurer and the Database & Directory Committee, spreading it across the year, which fits with our strategic goal of reducing the workload for volunteers.

The board intends to apply this rolling fiscal year to new members only, leaving the fiscal year for current members - i.e., those who joined before the passage of this amendment - intact, from January 1 through December 31.

The old and new wording of the bylaws affected by these amendments are appended below.

### *TEXT OF BYLAWS AFFECTED BY THE 2008 AMENDMENTS*

#### *Amendment 1 (treasurer's term)*

##### Old wording:

Article IV. Executive Officers.  
Section 4. Terms of Office

The treasurer shall be elected during the second year of the sitting treasurer's term, and shall serve for a period of one year as ex-officio "treasurer in training." The newly elected treasurer would then serve one three-year term on the Board following the ex-officio period.

Article V. Executive Board.  
Section 4. Terms of Office.

The treasurer shall be elected during the second year of the sitting treasurer's term, and shall serve for a period of one year as ex-officio "treasurer in training." The newly elected

treasurer would then serve one three-year term on the Board following the ex-officio period.

New wording:

Article IV. Executive Officers  
Section 4. Terms of Office.

The treasurer shall be elected for a term of three years. The first year shall be served as treasurer-elect, followed by two years as treasurer.

Article V. Executive Board  
Section 4. Terms of Office.

The treasurer shall be elected for a term of three years. The first year shall be served as treasurer-elect, followed by two years as treasurer.

*Amendment 2 (membership fiscal year):*

Old wording:

Article III. Membership.  
Section 2. Dues and Fiscal Year.

Dues, which shall cover a fiscal year of January 1 through December 31, shall be remitted to NASIG annually by individuals desiring active membership.

New wording:

Article III. Membership.  
Section 2. Dues.

Dues shall be remitted to NASIG annually by individuals desiring active membership.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Peter Whiting, NASIG Treasurer

May 2008

Thank you to all the NASIG members that donated to the organization when renewing your membership. We received \$175.00 from seven members.

NASIG's finances continue to remain stable. The balance sheet below reflects our income and assets as of April 1, 2008. Current assets are \$434,882.65. This includes \$370,162.00 in bank balances and \$64,720.65 in the investment accounts.

Sales made at CafePress go towards NASIG scholarships. The first commission payment was for \$26.99.

**Balance Sheet  
(Includes unrealized gains)  
As of 4/1/08**

ASSETS	
Cash and Bank Accounts	
Charles Schwab-Cash	32,434.80
CHECKING-264	285,318.09

SAVINGS-267	84,843.91
Cash	0
<b>TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts</b>	<b>402,596.80</b>
Investments	
Charles Schwab	32,285.85
<b>TOTAL Investments</b>	<b>32,285.85</b>
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	402,596.80
TOTAL Investments	32,285.85
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>434,882.65</b>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
LIABILITIES	0
EQUITY	434,882.65
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>434,882.65</b>

The NASIG budget runs on a calendar year for tax purposes.

The 2008 budget is on track. Technology expenditures went towards development of the new NASIG web page.

<b>2008 NASIG budget expenditures as of April 1, 2008</b>	
Administration	\$8,118.29
Awards & Recognition	\$0.00
Bylaws	\$0.00
Continuing Education	\$0.00
Conference Planning	\$17.85
Database & <i>Directory</i>	\$0.00
Electronic Communication	\$2,400.00
Library School Outreach	\$0.00
Nominations & Elections	\$133.07
<i>Proceedings</i>	\$0.00
Publications	\$0.00
Site Selection	\$0.00
Technology	\$17,823.75
Treasurer	\$2,950.36
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$31,443.32</b>

#### NASIG BUDGET FOR 2008

Administration	\$34,400.00
Archives	\$555.00
Awards & Recognition	\$18,300.00
Bylaws	\$1,200.00
Continuing Education	\$3,625.00
Conference Planning	\$6,450.00
Database and <i>Directory</i>	\$150.00
Library School outreach	\$50.00
Membership Dev	\$1,850.00
Nominations & Elections	\$400.00
<i>Newsletter</i>	\$579.30
<i>Proceedings</i>	\$1,274.00
Publicist	\$100.00
Publications	\$700.00
Program Planning	\$250.00
Site selection	\$2,000.00
Technology	\$20,000.00
Treasurer	\$7,525.00
TOTAL	\$99,408.30

The NASIG Executive Board approved the NASIG budget for 2008 during its fall board meeting in Phoenix, Arizona.

## TECHNOLOGY PLAN IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

Donnice Cochenour, Project Manager

This is the third update on the status of the website migration.

The NASIG website content is being migrated from the old site to the new site by Jia Mi and members of the Electronic Communications Committee. The biggest item left to complete is migration of the conference *Proceedings*. Other publications (*Newsletter* and NASIGuides) have been migrated, as well as most of the remaining Web pages. An exciting change on the new site will be the ability for members to update their personal information in the membership *Directory* through their "My Profile" Web page. We will continue to link to the existing Jobs Blog rather than setting up the ArcStone Jobs function at this time, leaving that function to implement later.

The development of private Web working space for committees has been completed and operates based on the committee assignment being checked off on a member's record in the membership database. Updating access to this work space will be as simple as unchecking the committee box in someone's record in the membership database and checking it in the new committee member's record. A committee member accesses their private work space from a link off their "My Profile" page under the "My Membership" tab. Private Web space for a new committee or task force can be created simply by adding that committee to the list of committees in the membership database. While this isn't a perfect solution (there still appears to be no way for a committee to upload a file and keep it confidential – anyone with admin

permission to upload documents will be able to access any documents uploaded to the site), this has been one of the most difficult tasks for ArcStone to complete to our specifications.

ArcStone continues to work on the integration of the website with the AMO Administration modules. Yet to be completed are: linking the "Search the Directory" function with the membership database in Admin, completing the ability to search the website, linking the "Events Calendar" with the events function in Admin, linking the Discussion Forum to the website, and linking the Photo Gallery in Admin to the Conference Photos Web page.

#### *DISCUSSION FORUMS*

The Discussion Forum space has been created for the general NASIG membership and currently has three different "chatrooms": one for the annual conference, one for general discussion topics, and one for announcements. More chatrooms for different purposes can be added upon request, but must be done by ArcStone staff. (This isn't something we can do ourselves through the AMO Admin module).

ArcStone also created a separate configuration of the discussion forum software to allow a committee to conduct private discussions to test as an alternative to using the listserv to communicate committee business. The ECC is the pilot committee for this test. There is apparently no way with this software to create a chatroom within the general discussion forum and restrict access to a limited group of people.

Each committee will have to have their own discussion forum space, separate from the general membership discussion forum if we decide to use this method to replace listserv communications.

#### *WEBSITE PERMISSIONS*

The Rights/Roles/Users function of AMO Admin now allows appropriate permissions to be assigned for Web editing, as well as for access to specific functions within the AMO Admin modules. Individuals can be given permission to edit content on a single Web page, or all content within a tab such as "About NASIG", as well as permissions for AMO Admin functions for Events (Conference), Members (database), Discussion Forum (allows deleting and editing content, but not creating a new chatroom), Messaging (broadcasting emails to the entire membership, or selected groups, committees, etc), Jobs, and

Administration (assigning permissions, uploading files, survey management, etc).

#### *MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL/JOIN NASIG*

The ability to pay dues to renew membership or for someone new to join NASIG through the website is under development. The online form for new members is being developed, and membership renewal is being tied into the credit card payment system and the membership database to automatically update the "renewal date" at the point of payment.

#### *CONFERENCE EVALUATION*

The Evaluation & Assessment Committee chair has been introduced to the survey software on AMO and is in the process of creating the conference evaluation instrument. There is an issue with non-members being able to complete the survey online because the standard implementation of the survey software requires users to log in through the membership database. We are still investigating alternatives to this login requirement with ArcStone.

#### *CONFERENCE HANDOUTS*

The ability to upload PowerPoint, Word, Excel, PDF, and other document types is now functional in the AMO Admin – Documents Upload section. A separate directory exists to upload conference handouts. After a file is uploaded, the AMO software assigns a URL which can be used to create public access to the file on the website. This is the alternative for the Moodle space used for conference handouts in the past.

#### *PHASE II*

The blog and wiki have been placed in a Phase II implementation and won't be completed until after the main website goes live. There are also several items in the reports functionality that need to be completed. (We are currently unable to draw membership reports based on join date or renewal date, for example). We will not wait for this to be fixed before we go live with the website, as it is a back end function.

One of the biggest challenges for both the NASIG volunteers who have worked on the migration, as well as ArcStone staff, has been to have site development, migration and public use (registration, discussion forum, voting) all going on at the same time. The site is still on the development server with all debugging software in place which causes many error messages to

appear at unpredictable times and also slows down response times. ArcStone has assured us that performance will be much faster once we are in production and out of testing/development.

The go-live date is May 23 and ArcStone is committed to meeting that deadline.

Thanks to Lisa Blackwell and the Database & Directory Committee members, as well as to Jia Mi and the Electronic Communications Committee members who have been intimately involved in the daily challenges of content migration and implementation.

## 23<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE (2008)

### PPC UPDATE

Erika Ripley and Sarah Wessel, Co-Chairs

The conference in Phoenix is almost here, and here are a few tips that may help take the sting out of tough choices among the programs:

- Since registration opened, we have had a couple changes in the scheduling of sessions. Two sessions will be repeated, due to high interest, and there's a new session about the recently announced UKSG/NISO KBART project.
- During lunch on Saturday, you have the opportunity to discuss informally topics that are on your mind:
  - Acquisitions facilitated by Debbie Johnson-Houston
  - Cataloging/MARC Record Services/SCCTP facilitated by Ann Ercelawn
  - EDI facilitated by Kay Johnson
  - E-Journal Workflow facilitated by Paula Sullenger

- Networking Node facilitated by Barbara McWilliams
- Preservation – Archiving, Binding, Digitization facilitated by Brian Baird
- Web 2.0 Tools facilitated by Kira Cooper
- And on Sunday morning, you can sip your cup of coffee while joining fellow users of products from the following vendors:
  - Innovative facilitated by Blythe Kropf
  - JSTOR/Portico Archive facilitated by Kenneth DiFiore
  - Scholarly Stats facilitated by Christine Stamison
  - Serials Solutions facilitated by Helen M. Aiello and Nicole Pelsinsky
  - Sirsi facilitated by Sharon Dyas-Correia

We're excited about this year's program and hope to see you in Phoenix soon!

### SERIALS AND SCORPIONS

Betsy Appleton, 2008 NASIG Horizon Award Winner

After doing a little digging to supplement my admittedly shaky knowledge of the scorpion—featured prominently on the 2008 NASIG Conference logo—I am almost surprised that I still want to attend a conference in Arizona. The possibility of such a sting strikes within me no little anxiety. However, I am a serials librarian: the risks and challenges serials librarians daily face cause scorpion venom to appear mild.

As I have transitioned from student to professional, the world of serials has gone from solely print, to primarily print with some electronic, to primarily electronic with some print. (Will the pattern continue?) A “COUNTER” is no longer a place to sit, eating “SUSHI”;

“CLOCKSS” and “LOCKSS” boxes have left the pages of Dr. Seuss. Like a scorpion's sting, all of these changes may be causing difficulty breathing, high blood pressure, increased heart rate, and muscle spasms. Unlike a scorpion's sting, symptoms of the serials' sting include increasing budgetary pressures, rising user expectations, open access controversies, digital preservation questions, and a widening gap between academic study and professional application.

I am greatly relieved to know that there are antitoxins to scorpion venom as I anticipate attending a conference where the possibility of meeting a scorpion is far higher than at home.

Just as these antitoxins have been developed, the challenges posed by the dynamic nature of serials have created tremendous opportunities. We have begun “taking the sting out of serials” with the same collaborative spirit that has been a hallmark of the profession for decades. Major kudos is in order for NISO working groups that have developed and continue to develop standards for usage statistics, resource linking, and metadata. Between drafts of this essay the Shared Electronic Resource Understanding Working Group issued its recommended practices—recommendations that may take the sting out of a wide swath of license negotiations. Preservation initiatives such as LOCKSS/CLOCKSS and Portico are making questions of both preservation and ownership of electronic content less ambiguous. We are rising to meet our users’ expectations by ever-expanding access to online collections and services, though our budgets remain as tight as ever.

Though all of these initiatives have taken out their share of sting, there is still need for other sorts of “healing balms” to ease the pain that both serialists and their customers/users continue to experience. Serialists must remain agile—not only taking the current stings out of serials, but also anticipating new stings as serials continue to evolve.

As a 2007 graduate of an LIS program, I know firsthand that most students today regard serials librarianship as any Arizona tourist regards a scorpion: stay away! Where I see exciting opportunities to influence the changes that will affect nearly every aspect of librarianship as my career progresses, my fellow classmates see insurmountable problems too overwhelming and too mysterious in which to invest their professional energies. It seemed that my professors regarded serials as something best learned “on the job.” While there is certainly merit to this assertion, the sting is in the mysterious nature of serials concepts overlooked in the classroom. There is too much at stake for librarianship in general to rely on

these sorts of assumptions. Our resources, budgets, and issues within serials librarianship are heavily affecting all librarianship. Throughout the information profession, the sting needs to be taken not out of serials, but out of the perceptions of serials.

Emerging technologies continue to change the face of serials today. It is exciting to see users interacting with electronic content in unprecedented ways. Innovative, experimental publishing models are changing the look and feel of serials. Several electronic journals provide platforms for annotation, comment, ranking, and blog-like discussion of their content, bringing the author and reader into tighter circles of valuable communication. RSS feeds and table of contents services continue to streamline discovery. The future looks very bright for these new functionalities, yet these changes will undoubtedly create new stings: challenges for both serialists and serials users. Where do we need to facilitate these changes, and for what users are these changes posing serious challenges? Fragmented populations with different technical and subject expertise are creating the need for varied marketing strategies and instruction techniques. Serialists will be again facing now-familiar ambiguities as these new platforms take hold.

My fascination with serials continues to deepen, and I am looking forward to an exciting future in this dynamic profession. I intend to use my knowledge, skills, and expertise to continue not only to take the sting out of serials, but also put that sting to good use. Medical advances have isolated toxins in several animals’ stings, which are consequently used in a variety of therapeutic ways. With that in mind, I am looking forward to working with serials’ stings as they will undoubtedly surface in the future. Perhaps these future stings will be, as in medicine, harnessed for more exciting, innovative solutions to the challenges we currently face. I am sure we will discover ways to do this at NASIG 2008.

## PROFILES

Susan Davis, Profiles Editor

### LINDA PITTS

I used the Title Changes section of the *NASIG Newsletter* to look for possible profile subjects and came across Linda's name. I've met Linda at NASIG conferences and thought she would make for an interesting column. Fortunately I was right! Linda is presently assistant head of Serials Cataloging at the University of Washington Libraries and a member of the NASIG Publications and Public Relations Committee. And not so coincidentally this committee is also profiled in this issue.



Linda Pitts

#### *NASIG-RELATED*

Susan: How did you become involved in NASIG?

Linda: In May of 1996, I had accepted a temporary position at the University of Washington Libraries as the serials projects librarian, but I hadn't actually started yet. Some of the librarians in the Serials Division thought it would be a good idea for me to go to the NASIG conference, so I filled out the required paperwork and was approved to go before I even started my job! The conference that year was in Albuquerque, New Mexico. I remember the weather being very hot, but the conference was fabulous! I had a wonderful time and met some great people. I joined NASIG officially in January of 1997.

Susan: How has being involved in NASIG impacted your career/philosophy of librarianship?

Linda: As my primary area of professional involvement, NASIG has been really important to my career. Without it, or something like it, I wouldn't have a permanent job at the UW Libraries! But seriously, being in NASIG has helped develop my view of librarianship as an inclusive, unifying profession. We're all in this together, the librarians, publishers, and vendors, and it doesn't help to have an "us versus them" mentality. NASIG definitely encourages people to get out of that negative mind-set.

Susan: What is your most memorable conference experience?

Linda: I think that would have to be being on the Conference Planning Committee for the 2003 conference at Portland State University in Portland, Oregon. It was the first conference where we stayed in hotels instead of on a college campus. Along with generally helping out, I was in charge of arranging the all-day-long transportation between the hotels and the conference site, as well as the transport to and from the evening event at the Multnomah County Library. I had never, ever done anything like that in my life--it was a true learning experience! Being involved behind the scenes was great and gave me a whole new appreciation for what it takes to put on a conference. If you ever have a chance to be on the Conference Planning Committee, take it!

#### *LIBRARIES-RELATED*

Susan: What made you chose a career in librarianship?

Linda: I stumbled into librarianship almost by accident. I was working at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Library as a library technician and was lucky enough to be allowed to do some original cataloging. I realized how much fun that was and decided to go to library school and get my degree. It

probably helped that I'd done a number of other things first, some of which had been pretty demanding physically, and I'd come to realize that it would be a good idea to get into something that I could still do when I got older.

Susan: What positions have you held and where?

Linda: I've worked at the UW Libraries in the Serials Division ever since getting my degree in 1996. I started as the serials projects librarian, splitting my time between Serials Acquisitions and Serials Cataloging. This was a temporary position that transitioned into a permanent-track position for which I had to apply. Fortunately for me, I was the successful candidate for the new job of serials services librarian! This was again a split assignment between Serials Acquisitions and Serials Cataloging. Then the person who headed up the Serials Receipts Section left to take another job, and I was asked to take over as head of Serials Receipts. (Besides checking in the serials, the Receipts Section took care of check-in record maintenance in our OPAC and, among other things, functioned as a kind of go-between between Serials Acquisitions and Serials Cataloging.) Then we reorganized the Serials Division in 2005, eliminating the Serials Receipts Section. At that point, I became assistant head of Serials Cataloging, the position I hold today.

Susan: How did you end up in serials?

Linda: When I was first getting my feet wet doing original cataloging, I found that cataloging serials was more interesting and more fun than cataloging monographs. The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Library (UAMS) had a history of medicine collection that included a fair number of uncataloged serials, many of which were newsletters issued by various colleges and departments at the medical school. I ended up cataloging the serials in this collection, and naturally a fair number of the local publications had no records at all in OCLC. I literally spent hours reading AACR2 while I was inputting original records. I felt strongly enough about what I had learned to convince my boss that we should be doing the records for the local newsletters correctly in OCLC as (mostly) corporate body main entry and then changing them for our local catalog to title main entry, which was how the history of medicine librarian wanted them. So I went to library school

knowing that I wanted to be a cataloger (yes, I know, I'm weird), and hopefully, a serials cataloger. For part of my course work, I did a field work internship in Serials Cataloging at the UW Libraries. After the course was over, I continued working one afternoon a week as a volunteer in Serials Cataloging. This turned out to be a good move, because when they were looking for a projects librarian for the Serials Division, there I was, already slightly trained and looking for a library job.

Susan: Did you have any mentors?

Linda: Steve Shadle was my field work supervisor and has been one of my primary mentors ever since. He has an amazing depth and breadth of knowledge about serials and cataloging, and he's really good at sharing it. And Kris Lindlan, my boss, has also taught me an enormous amount about cataloging serials and about librarianship in general.

Susan: What do you enjoy most about your current position?

Linda: Cataloging! Although it can be frustrating at times, especially when I'm trying to set up complicated name authority headings with incomplete information, it's really challenging and fun, like solving little mysteries all day long. We're a CONSER library, so I can lock and replace records on OCLC. It's great to be able to just fix things that are wrong instead of having to report them to OCLC and then hope for the best.

### *LIFE BEFORE LIBRARIES*

Susan: Did you have another career before you became a librarian?

Linda: Well, I didn't so much have another career as a series of different jobs. Besides being a library technician, I've been a clerk in a music store (my first job out of college), a clerk in a hardware store (twice), a kitchen boss, a house cleaner, the manager of a condominium property owners association, and a quality control chemist in a soybean processing plant.

Susan: How did those experiences contribute to your library career?

Linda: In an indirect way, my string of jobs did contribute to my library career because it acted as an incentive for me to find something I could do and would want to do for the rest of my

working life. Working in the soybean processing plant was really what started pushing me seriously in that direction. It was a dirty, noisy, unpleasant place with lots of half-ruined buildings, and one day while I was outside checking something (I forget what, exactly) about the vile-looking water in the coolant tower collection pond, charmingly surrounded as it was by a rusted, pigeon poop-encrusted railing, I realized that what I wanted was to do interesting work in pleasant surroundings for decent pay. My next job was at the UAMS Library where I realized that I had finally found my niche in cataloging, and after that, I never looked back!

#### GENERAL STUFF

Susan: Have you always lived in the Pacific Northwest?

Linda: I've been in Seattle since September of 1991, when we moved here so I could go to library school. Prior to that, I'd lived in the South (Texas and Arkansas) all my life except for going to college in Wisconsin. I find I miss Southern voices, warm summer evenings, and thunderstorms (despite our reputation for rain in Seattle, it almost never thunders), but I definitely don't miss the mosquitoes and giant cockroaches or the extreme heat and humidity.

Susan: Do you have a favorite author, movie(s), TV show(s) or a favorite hobby or pastime?

Linda: W. Somerset Maugham is one of my favorite authors. I'd not read much Maugham before I started working at the UW Libraries, but after I read *Ashenden: or, The British Agent*, I decided to read everything that the Libraries have of his works. I think I've now made my way through everything except the acting editions of his plays. I think my two favorite movies are *Little Big Man* and *Time Bandits*. I really enjoy *South Park* on TV for its outrageousness; *MythBusters* is another favorite show. Also, I love *SpongeBob SquarePants*, although I think that may fall under the category of (not-so) secret indulgence! Oh, and I read a lot of mystery novels. I think that probably counts as a guilty pleasure, if not another secret indulgence.

Susan: Do you have any secret indulgences you're willing to share?

Linda: I have a huge sweet tooth (I blame my father for that). Once in a great while I'll just

have ice cream or maybe cookies for dinner and then later will need to drink a big glass of orange juice just to sort of balance things out. And I love deviled eggs--I could probably eat a full dozen in one sitting if given the chance.

Susan: Where would you like to go "to get away from it all?" Or do you have a favorite hangout place in Seattle? A favorite vacation spot?

Linda: Bryce Canyon is one of the coolest places I've ever been. It's simply beautiful, and I'd love to go back there and just spend time exploring it and the surrounding area. The night sky is so clear and dark that you can see all the stars; it's easy to forget what that's like, living in a city. I also like the Washington/Oregon coast area a lot, and it's easier to get to!

Susan: Is there anything about family, friends, pets that you'd like to mention?

Linda: I've been married to my husband, Martin, for 33 years. We live in a communal household with our house-mate of many years, Gordon Kuhns, his wife, Lisa, and daughter, Lizzy, who will soon be six. It's really cool because Martin and I got to be more-or-less instant grandparents without ever having been parents! While being "Auntie Linda" does have its challenges, it's also great fun, and I wouldn't trade it for anything in the world. I have one sister, Ann Miller, who lives in Flagstaff, Arizona with her husband, Rick; they have two children, Tasha and Michael. I'm going to visit them after the conference. That's going to be great, because I haven't seen them since October 2005 when Tasha got married. (Doesn't seem like I should be old enough to have a married niece, but there it is!)

Susan: Have you had an interesting experience or something else that I haven't asked about?

Linda: Nothing to do with librarianship, but I'll just share one of the most amazing things I've ever seen. This happened while I was working at UAMS. I was running a little late one day, and instead of parking for free a couple of blocks away from the campus, I decided to pay for a few hours in the closest patient parking lot (hard to believe now that I didn't want to pay \$36 a year for a place in the parking deck!). The lot was at the top of a pretty steep hill. It was raining that day, one of those Arkansas thunderstorms that I miss so much. I had just

gotten out of my car and was looking back down the hill when I saw a tree get struck by lightning! The whole tree danced with a crackling blue light that seemed to outline every leaf for a second before dying away. Ironically, the tree was really close to where I normally parked. If I hadn't

decided to park on campus, I would have been just a few yards from the lightning strike when it happened, and I might not be here to write these words today. So let that be a lesson to you about something or other.

## PUBLICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

I selected the Publications and Public Relations Committee for this issue's profile for several reasons. Many NASIG committees are extremely busy as the annual conference rapidly approaches and would not have time to respond to my questions, and I hoped this group's work was not so conference cycle-oriented. The other is that in its present form this is a relatively new committee, which I wanted to learn more about. Thanks to co-chairs Marit Taylor and Glen Wiley for agreeing to be profiled!

The Publications and Public Relations Committee (PPRC) was created at the 2006 NASIG Conference. In reality it is a reinvention of the old Publications Committee with added responsibilities in the area of public relations. As with the old committee, the board liaison is the immediate past president, who serves as the NASIG publicist. This year, of course, that liaison is Denise Novak.

(Editor's note: For those of you who love NASIG history, the Publications Committee was approved at the November 1998 board meeting, when Steve Oberg was NASIG president. The role of NASIG publicist was assigned to the past president starting after the 1999 annual conference, which was then Steve Oberg!)

The committee's charge includes proactively encouraging publication of serials-related literature, excepting the *NASIG Newsletter* and the Conference *Proceedings*. The PPRC takes that mission seriously, publicizing publication opportunities particularly for new NASIGuides. These are intended to provide concise, helpful introductions to different areas of serials work. The committee doesn't write the guides; instead they establish guidelines and provide mentoring, consulting and editing services. Fortunately, a number of NASIG members have volunteered to author a guide. So far this year "Cancellation Workflow" by Trina Holloway and "A Beginner's Guide to Working with Vendors" by Wm. Joseph Thomas have been posted. Several others

should be ready before the 2008 conference; including "The CONSER Record" by Steve Shadle (who helped to develop the standard), "How to Survive as a New Serialist" by Glenda Griffin, "Institutional Repositories" by Mary Greci, and "MARC Fields for Serials" by Beverley Geckle and Elizabeth McDonald. Two more are in the pipeline—"FRBR Implications for Serials" by Steve Shadle or another volunteer and "Claiming" by Rubye Cross. Authors of previously posted guides are also asked to update them. A list of possible topics is on the NASIG website at <http://www.nasig.org/publications/guides/>, and the committee is very open to suggestions about other topics that someone might offer to write about. So think about what you have to share with your fellow NASIG members and volunteer!

The other major committee project for the year is revision of the *Human Resources Directory*, which has been renamed as the *Speakers and Consultants Directory*. This resource is intended to be a way to bring together those who need to find a speaker or a consultant to help them with a new project or area of responsibility, and the many helpful experts on all sorts of areas among the NASIG membership. The *Directory* is open to everyone to use, but only NASIG members can be listed in the *Directory*. The *Directory* entries were reorganized to make them more consistent, and those whose entries had not been revised lately were contacted for updates, or in a few cases, withdrawn. This work has been ably carried out mostly by the committee's Webmaster, Kathryn Johns-Masten, and co-chair Glen Wiley. PPRC periodically advertises for new additions to the *Speakers and Consultants Directory*, in the *NASIG Newsletter* or on NASIG-L, which also serves to remind people that this helpful resource exists. This profile, then, is another opportunity to market the *Directory* and encourage members to consider adding a profile.

I asked Marit if there was a way to track use of the NASIGuides or the *Speakers and Consultants Directory* to see what impact they might be making. Did you know that you can look up NASIG Web statistics? Go to <http://www.nasig.org/stats/> and poke around. There have been several thousand hits on the guides and *Directory* over the past year. Of course there is no way of knowing what anyone looked at or did with the information, but there is definitely traffic on those pages.

Other helpful PPRC members not mentioned before are Susan Banoun, Linda Pitts, Sandy Folsom, and Gracemary Smulewitz, although Gracemary has recently had to resign from the committee because of new work responsibilities. Marit Taylor has served as chair of the committee for the last two years, stepping in when Linda Pitts found that she did not have the

time to be chair. Linda has, however, remained on the committee and has been a very valuable contributor, especially shepherding NASIGuides through the development and editing process and writing announcements.

The committee has not yet been as active in the area of publicity, although they did prepare a preconference announcement. Publicity activities have been somewhat on hold because of the pending outsourcing of Web responsibilities and publications, as well as the development of NASIG's new website. They expect to do much more publicity in future years, developing standardized formats for announcements and NASIG publications, and publicizing NASIG's activities and expertise to a wider audience.

## OTHER NASIG NEWS

### NEW NASIGUIDE NOW AVAILABLE

Glen Wiley, Co-Chair, Publications/PR Committee

A new NASIGuide on *A Beginner's Guide to Working with Vendors* by Wm. Joseph Thomas is now available at: <http://www.nasig.org/publications/guides/WorkingVendors.pdf>.

Wm. Joseph Thomas writes:

"This guide will provide an overview of the varieties of relationships with vendors, issues with communication, product knowledge, licensing and negotiating, ongoing service responsibilities by both librarian and vendor, and ethics. Many of the principles in this guide may be applied to a variety of people from whom libraries purchase resources, and may refer to serials subscription agents, database providers, consortium partners who negotiate with resource providers, even at times publishers' agents. This guide is focused rather on librarians' and vendors' 'mutually beneficial goals and aspirations' to provide resources to library users,

and will not explicitly address evaluating vendors."

Wm. Joseph Thomas is an Electronic Resources Librarian at Cornell University Library, Ithaca, New York. He may be contacted via email at: [wjt42@cornell.edu](mailto:wjt42@cornell.edu).

Other useful NASIGuides are available at <http://www.nasig.org/publications/guides>.

Several other NASIGuides are currently in the works and should be ready before the Phoenix conference, including *The CONSER Standard Record*, *How to Survive as a New Serialist*, *Institutional Repositories*, and *MARC Fields for Serials*. If you are interested in writing a NASIGuide on a pertinent topic to serials, please contact me at [gsw55@cornell.edu](mailto:gsw55@cornell.edu).

## NASIG ARCHIVES AT UIU-C: A TRIP TO THE PAST

Sheryl Williams, NASIG Archivist

There are a lot of records and documents that have accumulated during the 20+ years of NASIG's existence. A few years ago the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign was chosen to be the repository of those records and documents. UIU-C is well-known in the archives area; in addition to the University's archives, they also hold the archive of institutions such as the American Library Association, the Advertising Council, the American Association of Law Libraries, the American Association of Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture, the Sousa Archives and Center for American Music, and even the 3<sup>rd</sup> Armored Division Association.

When I worked on NASIG's Twentieth Anniversary History, we needed to contact staff at UIU-C, which was to be done through the NASIG Archivist. It was confusing for all of us NASIG-ers, as we weren't sure how to request materials or to whom those requests should be sent. After moving into the Archivist position, I realized there was even more confusion about procedures, access, and accountability. I came to recognize that a trip to UIU-C would be beneficial in several ways, not only to locate previously-needed information, but also to develop a one-on-one relationship with UIU-C staff.



The Archives Research Center at UIU-C, home of NASIG's archives.

NASIG's archives are located in the Archives Research Center, which is also known as the (former) Horticultural Field Laboratory. It has concrete vaults on three floors (some archives are housed in the main library). What I found at UIU-C was a staff eager to be helpful. Our

archives are considered small at only 5.3 cubic feet, and Mary Miller easily carted the boxes from storage to the workroom. There is a wealth of information in the archives, and reading through the correspondence of John Riddick as he worked to establish NASIG in the mid-80s took my breath away.



Mary Miller, visiting archival and reference specialist at the UIU-C Archives

Material requests are made to the NASIG Archivist, who then forwards the request to UIU-C. The current broad listing of files makes it difficult for anyone to know what file a document or piece of correspondence is in, which makes it hard for UIU-C staff to locate an item. Another of my goals was therefore to identify each item in each folder, and then to add this extended information to the lists on NASIGWeb. The archives are also listed on the UIU-C archives web page <<http://www.library.uiuc.edu/archives/archon/index.php?p=collections/controlcard&id=3140&q=nasig>>, but that listing does not require this level of detail. I had time to concentrate on only the committee files and two years of actual correspondence, which leaves much more to be done. Perhaps another time.

The trip was a total success. Changes in procedures for materials being sent to UIU-C include a better listing of contents, making copies of contracts and agreements to keep here for easy reference, and the use of restricted files for confidential materials.

Conference realia are retained only as photographs; these will be labeled and sent to

UIU-C, where they will be filed in appropriate conference folders.

Attention to detail, a desire for order, a sense of history, and an interest in the future . . . that's an archivist. A sense of adventure helps as well.

## **CALL FOR PROCEEDINGS RECORDERS**

Allyson Zellner, *Proceedings* Co-Editor

NASIG is seeking conference recorders for the preconference, vision, and tactics sessions at this year's annual conference in Phoenix. Recorders are asked to attend specific sessions, take notes and then synthesize the notes into a readable, comprehensive report of the session for the conference *Proceedings*. For vision sessions, recorders may be asked to listen to recordings of a presentation and work with the speaker to create a report for publication in the *Proceedings*.

Reporters will work under the general direction of the *Proceedings* editors. Editors for the 2008 *Proceedings* are Buddy Pennington, Allyson Zellner, and Carol Ann Borchert.

If you are a NASIG member with the ability to write clear, organized prose, and who is able to submit a report by Friday, July 18, 2008, please consider this opportunity to make a valuable contribution to the organization.

To apply, submit a letter of application by e-mail to:

Allyson A. Zellner, MLIS  
E-mail: [azellner@ebsco.com](mailto:azellner@ebsco.com)  
Phone: (205) 981-4074

Include in your application your complete contact information (including your snail mail address, e-mail, and phone number!), sessions you plan to attend, and a writing sample. Please include the writing sample as an attachment or as a link. The writing sample can be on any topic; it does not have to be related to librarianship. The purpose of the writing sample is to illustrate your writing ability. Suggested samples include: reports on a process, event, or meeting; book reviews; excerpts from essays or academic papers. Do not include minutes of meetings.

The deadline for applications is Friday, April 18, 2008.

## **CALL FOR NEWSLETTER CONFERENCE REPORTERS**

Lillian DeBlois, Conference Editor

NASIG regularly publishes reports on the annual conference in the September issue of the *NASIG Newsletter*. The *Newsletter* needs volunteer reporters to cover the conference events, including the preconferences, vision sessions, strategy and tactics sessions, workshops, informal discussion groups, and user groups. I am soliciting your help in covering the sessions at the 2008 conference in Phoenix, Arizona for inclusion in the *Newsletter*. We would like to have all of the sessions covered. If you are planning to attend the conference and are interested in submitting a report on a session, please contact me directly ([lillian\\_deblois@msn.com](mailto:lillian_deblois@msn.com)). Please indicate the

session(s) that you would like to cover since I do not have access to your registration preferences.

The following guidelines will apply:

- The reporter's name will appear in the byline as the author of the report.
- The deadline for submitting a *Newsletter* conference report is July 1, 2008 (about 4 weeks after the conference) for inclusion in the September issue.
- Reports are generally summaries of presentations and may vary somewhat in length, scope, and depth of coverage, at the reporters' discretions; reports must be full

prose (not outlines or written out notes) and preferably between 250-500 words.

- The *Newsletter* Editorial Board reserves the right to edit reports to any degree, or to not publish any report it deems inappropriate or unsatisfactory.
- Reporting for the *Newsletter* is not the same as recording for the *Conference Proceedings*; *Newsletter* reports are

generally less substantial than articles in the *Proceedings*.

- NASIG members, and especially the *Newsletter* Editorial Board, will be very appreciative and grateful for your report!

## COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORTS

### ARCHIVIST

Sheryl Williams, Archivist

When I worked on NASIG's Twentieth Anniversary History a few short years ago, we needed to contact staff at the University of Illinois – Urbana-Champaign (UIU-C), which was to be done through the NASIG archivist. It was confusing for all of us NASIG-ers, as we weren't sure how to request materials or to whom those requests should be sent. Since moving into the archivist position, I realized there was even more confusion about procedures, access, and accountability. The archives department has a small staff and is currently short-handed; this is one reason for the delay in responsiveness to inquiries. I came to believe that a trip to UIU-C would be beneficial in several ways, not only to locate some information I had needed during the writing of the anniversary history and to clarify listings of our holdings, but also to develop a relationship one-on-one with UIU-C staff.

What I found at UIU-C was staff anxious to be helpful. Our archives are considered small at only 5.3 cubic feet, and Mary Miller carted the boxes from storage to the workroom. Mary clarified their treatment of the archives when they are first received, which is minimal, making sure there are no miscellaneous scraps of paper in the files. As I went through the files, I noticed that correspondence was in order by date. Filing either by date, in chronological order, or by letter with responses, then in chronological order is appropriate. My preference is to file by the latter method. Mary explained that the order of papers is retained as sent, and no annotations added to the lists of content that we submit.

#### RECOMMENDATION

All papers should be sent in the order which will be most helpful to researchers.

Careful consideration should be given as to what is being sent to UIU-C, rather than automatically forwarding all papers. One request I received this past year was for a copy of an agreement between NASIG and the UKSG. Apparently no copy of the agreement was retained here. UIU-C staff did not find a copy in the unprocessed materials. Additionally, I asked for a copy of the original agreement between NASIG and UIU-C; we need a copy in the archivist's file.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Print copies of agreements such as the above should be retained, either by the archivist or another designated individual. An option would be to retain electronic copies, on the non-public side of NASIGWeb.

There is a wealth of information in the archives, and reading through the correspondence of John Riddick as he worked to establish NASIG in the mid-80s took my breath away. Nothing is ever without conflict. There are a few letters which should be in confidential, restricted-access envelopes. We could ask that an entire file be restricted, but then no one but the current board members (or specified designees) would have access to the whole file. An individual envelope would be preferred. I had marked some of the correspondence (at different places in the same file, because of the date-order submission mentioned above) to be restricted; Mary will put it all in an envelope and mark it as such. There should be a brief statement of the

contents of the envelope on the front, such as “John Jones letter of September 19, 1984, on the formation of NASIG, and John Riddick’s reply of October 4, 1984.” (Names and dates in this example are fictional). This statement would also be included on NASIGWeb for the file, and noted as RESTRICTED USE.

#### *RECOMMENDATION*

Specific sensitive material, rather than a complete file, should be placed in an envelope, with restricted access.

Material requests are made to the archivist, who then forwards the request to UIU-C. The current public listing of files makes it difficult to know what file a document is in, which makes it harder for UIU-C staff to locate a document. Another of my goals was to identify each item in each folder, and then to add this extended information to the lists on NASIGWeb. I had time to concentrate on only the committee files and two years of actual correspondence, which leaves much more to be done. Perhaps another time.

#### *RECOMMENDATION*

The archivist should briefly list each item in a folder, and include it in the folder when sent to UIU-C. The listing should also appear in the archives listing on NASIGWeb.

During the past year, one request for materials was made to UIU-C. Staff photocopied the materials, and sent it to me, and I forwarded it on. While looking through the archives, I noted that the originals had not been refiled. Mary Miller apologized, saying they had “a cartful” of materials to be refiled, and she would retrieve them if I needed to see them. I am concerned about the material not being refiled, as this presents an opportunity for being lost.

#### *RECOMMENDATION*

UIU-C staff should be encouraged to refile original materials as quickly as possible.

I asked if UIU-C would send me an annual statement of charges, with opening/ending balances. I explained that this information is necessary when preparing my budget, and without a statement from them, I have no way of know what the charges for photocopying or mailing are. Mary said they do not normally charge an association for the copying of their own materials, unless it is a large order. While UIU-C does not regularly prepare a statement,

they would make an allowance for us. There may be expenses in the processing of 2007 materials sent, particularly for staff time; they will be reflected on the next statement.

#### *RECOMMENDATION*

The archivist should request in April of each year a statement of expenses from UIU-C.

I found it no small annoyance that the material submitted last summer by the former archivist has not yet been processed by UIU-C staff. I have a copy of the original agreement between NASIG and UIU-C; there is no mention of materials being processed in a timely manner. I have been assured that the 2007 material “will be processed by the end of this summer.” I am not proposing that the archives be moved; I am trying to improve the process.

#### *RECOMMENDATION*

The archivist should request an approximate date of completion of processing, when materials are sent.

If this trip is repeated by future archivists or officers, it should be noted that the building the archives are in is located about 1.5 miles from the center of the campus. There is excellent bus service to this location. However, the building closes from 12-1:00 daily, and there are no food places close by. Just fair warning.

Other activity this past year involved photographing the conference realia I received from the previous archivist. Realia is not retained in the archives, but rather photographs of the items. Photographs will be sent to UIU-C, where they will be placed in the appropriate conference folder. Photographs will also be submitted to NASIGWeb’s non-public side. One of the items of realia is an oil painting done by a student grant winner at the Milwaukee conference. I have photographed the painting, and will return the painting to the artist, with our thanks and gratitude for her expression.

A few other items remain from the assortment of materials I received. There are some disks which may be proceedings or other conference materials. I need to install the program to read the disks; here’s a great example of what happens with old technology.

Finally, a more accurate account of funds expended is being kept, particularly in the

postage (shipping) budget line. The shipping of materials to UIU-C has been credited to NASIG's FedEx account, and not recorded separately. This makes it difficult to estimate this expense.

An archivist's manual is under development to capture all procedures.

Attached: Archivist's Budget, 2008 and UIU-C NASIG Budget, 2008

\* Does not include cost of shipping materials to UIU-C, charged to NASIG's FedEx account.

**NASIG ARCHIVIST BUDGET REPORT**

Budget Category	2008	2008
Archives	Estimate	Actual
<b>Contracts</b>		
<b>Insurance</b>		
<b>Office Supplies</b>	\$25.00	\$00.00
<b>Photocopy</b>		
<b>Postage</b>	\$50.00	\$ 5.05*
<b>Printing</b>		
<b>Special Project</b>		
<b>Conference Calls</b>		
<b>Travel</b>	\$480.00	\$481.32
<b>Temporary Help</b>		
<b>Other</b>		
<b>Total</b>	\$555.00	\$486.37

**UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS – LIBRARY: NASIG BUDGET**  
William Maher

		Year 4		
Start Date:		4/1/07		
End Date:		4/1/08		
		Cost Share or Agency Funding	FTE	Agency Funds Requested
<b>A</b>	<b>Salaried Personnel</b>			
1	Graduate Hourly	Agency	0%	\$ -
	Total Salaries and Wages		0.00	\$ -
<b>B.</b>	<b>Fringe Benefits (if charged as direct costs)</b>			
	Total Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits			\$ -
<b>C.</b>	<b>Permanent Equipment (list item and \$ if over \$5,000ea)</b>			
	Total Permanent Equipment			\$ -
<b>D.</b>	<b>Travel</b>			
	1. Domestic			\$ -
	2. Foreign (list below)			-
<b>E.</b>	<b>Other Direct Costs</b>			
1	Materials and Supplies			\$ -
2	Preservation Supplies			-
3	Expensed Equipment (< \$5,000)			-
4	Consultants			-
5	Publications			-
6	Services			-

7	Communication	-
8	Shipping & Insurance	-
9	Tuition & Fee Waiver (37% of Graduate Assistant Salaries)	-
	Total Other Direct Costs	\$ -
<b>F.</b>	<b>Total Direct Costs (A through F)</b>	\$ -
<b>G.</b>	<b>Indirect Costs (0% of MTDC)</b>	-
<b>H.</b>	<b>Total Direct and Indirect Costs (G+H)</b>	\$ -
	<b>% of Cost Sharing Provided</b>	\$ -
	<b>Amount Needed to Meet Cost Sharing Requirement</b>	
	<b>Previous Balance</b>	<b>\$675.00</b>
	<b>Total Debits for 04-2007 through 04-2008</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
	<b>Account Total</b>	<b>\$675.00</b>

## AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Patrick Carr and Clint Chamberlain, Co-chairs

Committee members: Chris Brady (Baylor University), Evelyn Brass (University of Houston), Patrick Carr (Mississippi State University) co-chair, Clint Chamberlain (University of Texas at Austin) co-chair, Alan Diehlmann (Editorial Océano, Inc.), Carol Ficken (University of Akron), Christine Freeman (Texas A&M University – Kingsville), Marcella Leshner (St. Mary’s University), Elizabeth McDonald (University of Memphis), Sarah Morris (ReedSmith LLP), Sarah Sutton (Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi).  
Board liaison: Alison Roth (YBP)

25 April 2008

### *NARRATIVE OF ACTIVITIES SINCE LAST REPORT*

In February, the committee received award applications. The breakdown of applications received is as follows:

- 15 Student Grant Award applications
- 7 Fritz Schwartz Scholarship applications
- 7 Horizon Award applications
- 16 Serials Specialist Award applications
- 1 Marcia Tuttle International Grant application

All applications and supporting documents were blinded by the co-chairs before being posted to the committee web page. An identity matrix was used to match applicants to scores, and an Excel spreadsheet was distributed to committee members for their use in recording scores for all awards. The co-chairs received and compiled the ratings and cross-checked results with each other. Winners were approved by the board,

notified and registered for the conference and year’s free membership, and announced to the membership via NASIG-L and the *Newsletter*.

The committee of Mexican library school deans selected the recipient of the Mexico Student Grant Award and notified us of his name.

The complete list of 2008 award recipients is as follows:

**MARCIA TUTTLE INTERNATIONAL GRANT WINNER**  
Stephanie Schmitt, Zayed University, Dubai, UAE

**NASIG CONFERENCE STUDENT GRANT WINNERS**  
Eugenia Beh, University of Texas at Austin  
Barbara Birenbaum, UCLA  
Kathryn Machin, Queens College  
Jason Ronallo, Indiana University  
Pegeen Seger, University of Oklahoma  
Nancy B. Thomas, University of Tennessee

*MEXICO STUDENT GRANT WINNER*  
Armando Avila-González, Escuela Nacional  
Biblioteconomía y Archivoeconomía, Mexico  
City, DF, Mexico

*FRITZ SCHWARTZ SERIALS EDUCATION  
SCHOLARSHIP WINNER*  
Jewel Rucker, University of Pittsburgh

*HORIZON AWARD WINNER*  
Betsy Appleton, George Washington University

*SERIALS SPECIALIST AWARD WINNER*  
Marie Peterson, University at Buffalo, State  
University of New York

Committee members Carol Ficken and Chris Brady are currently making travel arrangements to bring the winners to the 2008 conference. Committee co-chair Patrick Carr has sent a letter to the winner of the Mexico Student Grant Award to enable him to obtain his visa for travel to the United States. Each award recipient will be paired with a mentor for the conference. We will soon request that the treasurer send conference stipend checks to the award winners.

Committee co-chair Clint Chamberlain is working with our supplier to purchase plaques and gifts to be shipped to Phoenix for distribution during the conference.

Additional highlights of the past year's work include:

- Carol Ficken conducted an informal survey of past Tuttle recipients in order to determine how they learned about the existence of the grant and what ideas they might have regarding ways to increase the number of applicants for the grant. These ideas were discussed by the committee and resulted in subtle rewording of the award description as well as attempts to identify and post award announcements to discussion lists intended for audiences beyond North America.

- Conducted an online survey of 2007 award winners regarding their experiences at the 2007 NASIG Annual Conferences. The survey aimed to assess ways in which the Awards & Recognition Committee can improve the experiences of future award winners. The results of the survey were reported in the September 2007 issue of the *Newsletter*.
- Conducting a series of email conversations among committee members on the following topic: increasing awareness of awards.
- Collaborated with Profiles editor Susan Davis to develop an updated profile of the Awards & Recognition committee. The profile was published in the March 2008 issue of the *Newsletter*.
- Recommendations for continued service on the committee and co-chairs for 2008/09 were made to the president-elect.

*ANY CHANGES OR EXCEPTIONS TO BUDGET*

At the October 2007 meeting, the NASIG Board proposed that the number of Student Grant Awards be increased. At the January 2008 meeting, the Board increased the amount of the Tuttle Award to \$3,000.

*STATISTICAL INFORMATION*  
None

*ACTIONS REQUIRED BY BOARD*

The board has asked that the committee work with the Translator's Resource Team to have the award announcements translated into French and Spanish.

*QUESTIONS FOR BOARD*  
None

*RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BOARD*  
None

*NAME OF PERSON SUBMITTING REPORT*  
Clint Chamberlain

## BYLAWS

Konstantin Gurevich and David Bynog, Co-chairs

Committee members: Janet Arcand (Iowa State University Library), David Burke (Villanova University), David Bynog (co-chair, Rice University), June Garner (Mississippi State University), Konstantin Gurevich (co-chair, University of Rochester), Elizabeth Parang (Pepperdine University), Kate Seago (University of Kentucky), Adolfo Tarango (UC San Diego).

Board liaison: Bob Schatz

April 2008

### COMPLETED ACTIVITIES

In 2007-2008, the committee prepared two bylaws amendments at the request of the board. The first one reduces the treasurer's term from four years to three. The second one removes from the bylaws the statement that membership dues cover the calendar year, thus allowing for rolling due dates. Both amendments were submitted to the general membership for a vote in the spring of 2008, and both were passed.

### CONTINUING ACTIVITIES

At the board's request, the committee did a preliminary survey of the bylaws to identify the

articles that will have to be amended should the board adopt the open elections policy. The findings were reported to the board.

### ACTIONS REQUIRED BY THE BOARD

The committee is presently awaiting comments from the board concerning the proposed wording of the above amendment.

### QUESTIONS FOR THE BOARD

If the board adopts the open elections policy, the committee will need extensive and detailed instructions on the new procedures in order to amend the bylaws accordingly.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION

Betty Landesman, Co-chair

Committee members for 2007/2008: \*Michael Bradford (Harvard Divinity School), Valerie Bross (University of California, Los Angeles) – co-chair, \*Cris Ferguson (Furman University), \*Jessica Gibson (Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois), Jill Grogg (University of Alabama), Lei Jin (Ryerson University), \*Betty Landesman (National Institutes of Health Library) – co-chair, Steve Oberg (Abbott Laboratories), Jayne Sappington (Texas Tech University), \*Virginia Taffurelli (New York Public Library), \*Sarah Tusa (Lamar University).

(\* = rotating off the committee for 2008/2009)

Board liaison: Kim Maxwell

We do not have the complete list of 2008/2009 members at this time. Valerie Bross will be continuing as co-chair.

May 1, 2008

### NARRATIVE OF ACTIVITIES SINCE LAST REPORT

- The CEC and the board approved one additional proposal for funding in 2008:
  - Co-sponsorship of program at the New England Technical Services Librarians conference, October 2008
- We had received an inquiry from Joyce Tenney about co-sponsoring a serials program for the Maryland Library Association in May. She has since reported that the program will not require any money from NASIG, but as three of the four

presenters are NASIG members they plan to promote NASIG during the presentation and have a membership form on the table.

- Valerie Bross, CEC co-chair, had contacted Peter Shepherd of Project Counter to discuss the possibility of presenting the "UKSG Usage Statistics Training Seminar" as a NASIG preconference or other NASIG-sponsored forum. In February we learned that UKSG had initially accepted but then had to withdraw due to other commitments. We anticipate hearing from them in the future to pursue future opportunities for collaboration.

- One of the ideas CEC members submitted for 2008 pre-conferences, Web 2.0, was accepted and will be a half-day session on the Thursday of the conference.
- Steve Oberg reports that he anticipates having a draft of the online course on "Best Practices for Electronic Resources Management", one of the projects being supported by CEC for 2008, ready for review in July.

*ACTION(S) REQUIRED BY BOARD*  
None

*QUESTIONS FOR BOARD*  
None

*RECOMMENDATIONS TO BOARD*  
None

*STATISTICAL INFORMATION*  
None

### **DATABASE & DIRECTORY**

Lisa Blackwell and Bob Persing, Co-chairs

Committee members: Alice Bright (Carnegie Mellon University) 06/08, Heather Cannon (Loyola Health Sciences Library) 07/09, Ann Ercelawn (Vanderbilt University) 07/09, Cecilia Genereux (University of Minnesota) 07/09, Julie Kane (Sweet Briar College) 07/09, Tzu Jing Kao (University of Connecticut) 07/09, Greg Matthews (Washington State University) 06/08, Suzanne Thomas (University of Pittsburgh) 07/09, Marit Taylor (joining after the annual conference).  
Board liaison: Jeff Slagell

#### *ACTIVITIES*

- Calls to renew memberships were posted on NASIG-L periodically beginning in early October and ending in January. A decision from bylaws allowed members who renewed up to the close of voting to participate in the elections. Because the voting took place using the ArcStone system, D&D individually activated members who renewed after the data migration in January which enabled those members to vote.
- Late last year, NASIG negotiated a contract with ArcStone Technologies to create a dynamic, fully integrated website incorporating all NASIG online documents including the membership database. The new website capabilities will include event management, member voting, electronic communication, and all monetary transactions. The backbone of the data in the system consists of all NASIG member records housed in the extant database on the Yale server. D&D worked to standardize as much of the data as possible prior to final migration of data to ArcStone. All active 2007 members and all members renewed or newly paid for 2008 after 7/1/2007 were set to active status. All others were deactivated. The initial data migration took place in

October. 1838 records total were copied to the ArcStone database.

#### *MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS*

Active (including new or renewed for 2008) as of 4/30/2008: 733 (for comparison purposes, we had 781 active members last year at this time.)

Active (including new or renewed for 2008) as of 1/4/2008: 458

New and renewed members for 2007 as of 10/2007: 872 (all members not renewed or new for 2007 after 7/1/2007 were subsequently deactivated prior to final data migration in preparation for opening of voting.)

At the time of this report, full descriptive reports are not yet available via the ArcStone database. Of note: new member additions and renewals continue to come in at a steady pace prior to the May conference registration deadline. As anticipated, many individuals choose to renew or join during conference registration. As soon as possible, D&D will generate a detailed membership profile report.

#### *WORKING GOALS*

- Develop committee procedures and documentation specific to the ArcStone product.

- Train each member of the committee to fully understand how to work with the new interface.
- Continue cleanup and standardization of member and organization records.

## **ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS**

Dalene Hawthorne (Emporia State University) and Jia Mi (The College of New Jersey), Co-chairs

Committee members; Beth Ashmore (Samford University), Nancy Beals (Wayne State University), Smita Parkhe (Georgetown University Law), June Yang (University of Maryland Baltimore County), Tonia Graves (Old Dominion University), Jonathan David Makepeace (Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information), Wendy Robertson (University of Iowa).

Board liaison: Anna Creech

April 25, 2008

### *LISTSERV ACTIVITIES*

Dalene Hawthorne continues as list manager this year. There are several backup list managers again this year. Beth Ashmore, Nancy Beals, Tonia Graves, Smita Parkhe, Jonathan Makepeace, Wendy Robertson, and Jia Mi have all been monitoring the listserv on monthly rotations. Beth, Jonathan, Wendy and Dalene solicited photos for the new website from various sources.

Dalene has worked with Rich at Bee.net to test new listserv software for the committees, and Rich has provided a quote for those services. The new listserv software allows members to attach files to listserv messages, which has been the major complaint with the previous software. ECC members will also try the forum on ArcStone to determine whether forums might be sufficient for committee work.

### *NASIGWEB ACTIVITIES*

Beth Ashmore and Jia Mi have been maintaining NASIG jobs blog on WordPress (<http://jobs.nasig.org>). Jia Mi also worked with CPC to set up 2008 conference website and has been working with PPC, CPC and other committees to update web pages.

ECC committee has assisted Donnice Cochenour to determine the content for the new website. Jia Mi coordinated with ArcStone and Donnice Cochenour to migrate NASIG web content from Bee.Net to ArcStone. Beth Ashmore, Wendy Robertson, Smita Parkhe, June Yang and Dalene Hawthorne will help the content migration and site testing after the migration. The ECC committee aims to complete

the site migration before the NASIG 2008 annual conference.

ECC will conduct a project to clean up old files and archive useful files.

### *STATISTICAL INFORMATION*

Website Statistics (May 2007 – April 2008)

- Average hits on the site per month: 353,055
- Average hits on the home page per month: 5,662
- Average page views per month: 161,748
- Average visitor sessions per month: 71,352
- Average one-time visitors per month: 13,309
- Average returning visitors per month: 5,667

List Statistics as of 4/26/08:

NASIG has 42 lists, 10 of which are currently inactive. There are 79 e-mail addresses, 42 of which are archive addresses and 11 of which are currently inactive. NASIG-L has 974 subscribers.

The jobs blog contains 404 posts. NASIG News includes 27 posts. Conference blog and website statistics are not currently available.

### *BOARD ACTION REQUESTED*

ECC should inventory our site on Bee.net and determine what content needs to be transferred to ArcStone. Coordinate with Donnice on this.

### *UPDATE*

Please have a recommendation for listservs by the June board meeting (shortly before the conference) with pricing based on current list membership and traffic. The sooner the better.

### *UPDATE*

Dalene will prepare a recommendation in May.

## LIBRARY SCHOOL OUTREACH

Sarah Sutton, Chair

Committee members: Carol Green, University of Southern Mississippi, Linda Smith Griffin, Louisiana State University, representing MDC, Kara Killough, Serials Solutions, Steve Oberg, Abbott Laboratories, representing CEC, Sandy Piver, Swets, Sarah Sutton, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi (Chair), representing A&R, Denise Novak, Carnegie Mellon University (Publicist).

Board liaison: Kim Maxwell, MIT Libraries

April 29, 2008

During the spring the committee proposed to:

1. Complete recruiting ambassadors for Texas Woman's University School of Library and Information Studies, University of North Texas School of Library and Information Science, University of Texas School of Information, University of Arizona School of Information Resources and Library Science, San Jose State University School of Library and Information Science.

Progress: received a lead from Jill Emery about a possible ambassador to the University of Texas School of Information, Eugenia Beh. Sarah Sutton has invited Eugenia to take this role and will work with her to arrange an informal social for students and alumni of the UT School of Information during the June conference.

2. Develop supervisory relationships between committee members and those new ambassadors.

Progress: none

3. Develop a procedure by which ambassadors could step down from their duties in order to make the transition for the library school from one ambassador to another as smooth and seamless as possible.

Progress: none

4. Continue to add to our Google Groups pages in order to share ideas, results, and materials that committee members and/or ambassadors have found useful in their work with library schools.

Progress: Sarah Sutton created a flow chart of committee to ambassador relationships and added it to the Google Group pages.

5. Compare the number of award applications received from library schools with ambassadors to the number received from these schools previously and to the number received from other library schools as one method of evaluating the committee's progress.

Completed: Five of fifteen student award applications for 2008 were received from students at library schools to which we have had an ambassador compared to 2007 when none of the award recipients were from schools with ambassadors. Overall, the number of student grant award applications increased from 2007 to 2008.

The committee has plans to make our current ambassadors "visible" at the upcoming conference in Phoenix with a sticker or ribbon for their name badges. We hope this will stir some questions about the ambassador program and, perhaps, some interest in serving as ambassadors.

### *STATISTICAL INFORMATION*

n/a

### *ACTIONS(S) REQUIRED BY BOARD*

n/a

### *QUESTIONS FOR BOARD*

n/a

### *RECOMMENDATIONS TO BOARD*

n/a

## MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Marla Chesler and Tina Feick, Co-chairs

Committee members: Alice Rhoades, 2006-2009 (Rice University); Anne Meringolo, 2007-2009 (Simmons College); Linda Griffen, 2006-2009 (Louisiana State University); Michele C. Monson, 2007-2009 (St. Cloud State University); Vicki Stanton, 2007-2009 (University of North Florida); Bob Boissy, 2006-2008 (Springer Science + Business Media Sales); Pam Cipkowski, 2006-2008 (Art Institute of Chicago); Zac Rolnik, 2006-2008 (Nowpublishers); October Ivins, Consultant (Ivins eContent Solutions); Eleanor Cook, Mentor Group (Appalachian State University); Katy Ginanni, Mentor Group (Trinity University).

Board liaison: Jeff Slagell (Delta State University)

May 2008

### ***NARRATIVE OF ACTIVITIES SINCE LAST REPORT ON OCTOBER 2007***

#### ***CONTINUING ACTIVITIES***

- Due to initial problems with the membership list, MDC did not send out renewal reminder emails this year. After testing a sample list, we decided to postpone the mailing until after the NASIG conference, giving time for the list to get cleaned up. As the conference registration included a line for membership, per an MDC suggestion, MDC hopes that a majority of the members would have renewed. This renewal project is scheduled for mid-June.
  - The renewal reminder email has been drafted and is ready to send out once we have obtained a list after the conference.
  - MDC postponed promoting membership to the commercial sector until we have a decision on organizational membership. With the recently approved sponsorship program, the committee will need to discuss with the board liaison how this program will affect and/or enhance our commercial membership drive. It is hoped that we will be able to do some promotion at ALA. We plan to resurrect the concept of a one page flyer aimed at the commercial sector.
  - After the conference, MDC will do a promotion to non-member attendees.
  - Unfortunately, no one from the committee was able to work on the brochure. This project needs to be completed and a plea for assistance will be sent out over the NASIG listserv.
  - The mentoring program is underway for the upcoming conference. Announcements have been circulated over the listserv. MDC members were again encouraged to participate.
- With an updated membership list, we will be able to update our annual statistics.
  - Carried over from previous report: The following projects should be done on an annual basis:
    - a. Contact members that did not renew - FEBRUARY
    - b. Contact potential members in the conference area. (Analysis shows that NASIG gains in the state where the conference is held -- and also loses in that same area the following year.) - Fall/Winter preceding conference. (Strategic Direction #2 & 6)
    - c. Contact non-member conference attendees - Fall/Winter after conference (Strategic Direction #2 & 6). We have received the file, but still need to send out the emails.
    - d. Maintain membership brochure. (Strategic Direction #4)
    - e. Develop and follow strategic plan to gain members in order to broaden the constituency of the membership. - includes surveying membership (subsets of new members to find out why joined and/or commercial membership) (Strategic Direction #2)
    - f. Support Library School Task Force (Strategic Direction #2 & 4)
    - g. Support the Mentoring Program. (Strategic Direction #1)
  - Identifying the needs of the commercial sector. (Strategic Direction #2)
  - Suggest programming that benefits the commercial sector and under represented groups such as special libraries, government libraries, public libraries, etc. (Strategic Direction #3)

#### **ACTIVITIES THAT SUPPORT THE NASIG STRATEGIC PLAN**

The committee is involved in activities, which support Strategic Directions 1 – 4 & 6. Please see notes in Continuing Activities and Completed Activities.

#### **ANY CHANGES OR EXCEPTION TO BUDGET**

None

#### **STATISTICAL INFORMATION**

To be completed with a new membership list.

#### **ACTIONS(S) REQUIRED BY BOARD**

Please update us on the status of the organizational membership proposal. Do you need additional information?

#### **QUESTIONS FOR BOARD**

How will the newly approved sponsorship program affect organizational membership and promotion to the commercial sector?

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS TO BOARD**

None

### **NEWSLETTER**

Kathryn Wesley, Editor-in-chief

*Newsletter* Editorial Board: Kurt Blythe, columns editor (University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill), Susan Davis, profiles editor (University at Buffalo), Jennifer Duncan, blog editor (Utah State University), Lillian DeBlois, conference/calendar editor, Sharon Heminger, PDF editor (JSTOR), Kathy Kobyljanec, copy editor (John Carroll University), Kathryn Wesley, editor-in-chief (Clemson University), Naomi Young, submissions editor (University of Florida).

Board liaison: Char Simser (Kansas State University)

May 5, 2008

#### **COMPLETED ACTIVITIES**

##### *Production Schedule 2007/08*

##### May 2007 issue (22:2)

Blog postings completed May 22. PDF published August 28. This issue included most of the committee annual reports for 2006/07.

##### September 2007 issue (22:3)

Blog postings began June 10, were completed September 9. PDF published November 20. This issue included conference reports, the remainder of committee annual reports, board and committee rosters and the results of the site selection survey.

##### December 2007 issue (22:4)

Blog postings began October 2, were completed December 2. PDF published February 4. This issue included our first guest editorial, an announcement of the tech plan implementation and the first list of donors.

##### March 2008 issue (23:1)

Blog postings completed March 14. This issue includes the new website preview and the article announcing organizational sponsorships.

#### **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

- New features implemented 2007/08

- Guest editorials by members, beginning with December 2007 issue
- Thanks to our donors, beginning with December 2007 issue
- New column of citations of member publications, beginning with June 2008 issue; thanks to Lisa Blackwell for this idea
- Liaison relationship established with *ALCTS Newsletter Online* via Virginia Taffurelli of the Continuing Education Committee to share information on upcoming events of mutual interest
- Editors of *UKSG Serials e-News* contacted to solicit guest editorials

#### **PERSONNEL**

Jennifer Duncan joined the *Newsletter* as blog editor. This was a newly established position. Kathy Kobyljanec will remain as copy editor.

#### **CONTINUING ACTIVITIES**

##### March 2008 issue (23:1)

The March PDF is in the final stages of editing. Publication will be delayed until after the public launch of the new website May 23 to enable linking to the permanent homes of the new strategic plan documents.

### June 2008 issue (23:2)

Blog postings began April 9 and should wrap up before the conference starts. The June PDF will be published after the conference.

### Presidents' experience piece

An article on the experiences of recent NASIG presidents regarding the demands and requirements of the office is in the works. It will be published before the next round of nominations, either in the June issue or as an early summer posting for the September issue.

### *ACTIVITIES SUPPORTING THE STRATEGIC PLAN*

As one of NASIG's primary avenues of communication, the *Newsletter* supports strategic goal #2 (Stimulate conversation among the serials information community). Specific activities this year supported goal #1 (Attract and strengthen involvement in NASIG of all members of the serials information community). These included items on volunteering,

organizational membership, and the petition process.

### *BUDGET*

I requested \$500 in the 2007/08 budget for the design of a new logo. A few weeks into the process of the design of the new website, I realized that it would be better to delay a new *Newsletter* logo until after the new website is functional. The \$500 will not be spent this year, and I will request it again in the 2008/09 budget.

### *STATISTICS OF INTEREST*

Total blog views as of May 5 are 36,439.

### *QUESTION FOR THE BOARD*

Since Virginia Taffurelli will be moving from CEC to the board, where will the liaison relationship with *ALCTS Newsletter Online* reside?

### *OTHER*

Thanks to all on the *Newsletter* Editorial Board and our liaison Char Simser.

## **NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS**

Gail Julian, Chair

Committee members: Kathy Brannon, vice-chair (Coutts Library Services), Christie Degener (UNC-Chapel Hill), Sarah Gardner (UC-Davis), Susan Markley (Villanova University), Jenni Wilson (Alexander Street Press), Tim Hagan (Northwestern University).

Board liaison: Denise Novak, past president

May 7, 2008

### *NOMINATIONS AND CANDIDATE SELECTION*

A nominations form was included in the conference packet. Thirteen completed forms were received that contained 51 nominations. A call for nominations was posted on NASIG-L on July 5, August 7, September 7, and October 4 resulting in another 87 nominations. In addition, the call was published in the September *Newsletter* and on the What's New page of the website. Forms used for nominee review and a working timetable were posted to NASIGWeb in order to help demystify the process.

Nominations were due by October 12, 2007. A total of 65 names were submitted.

Vice-President/President Elect: 38 nominations for 19 individuals

Member at Large: 100 nominations for 55 individuals

Some persons received multiple nominations, and some were nominated for both VP/PE and MAL. Five persons could not be considered because they either are members of the N&E Committee or were not current NASIG members.

The committee divided the remaining 60 names and contacted the nominees first by email and then by phone to gauge continued interest. Of the 17 remaining nominees for VP/PE, three originally agreed to continue the review process; however, one of the three later reconsidered, leaving two nominees for that position. Of the 52 remaining nominees for member at large, 24 agreed to continue the review.

Completed profiles were due by November 12, 2007. After reviewing the completed profile and reference forms, the committee met via conference call to discuss qualifications. The committee opted to check references on both remaining VP/PE nominees and on eight of the MAL nominees. On January 8, 2008, the

committee met via conference call to discuss reference checks and to set the slate. The slate was announced to the board, and the nominees notified. The slate was announced to the general membership along with a call for petition candidates. The deadline for petition candidates was February 8, 2008. The final slate was announced on February 15, 2008; one person petitioned to be slated for member at large.

VP/PE: Rick Anderson; Meg Mering

Member at Large: Bob Boissy; June Garner; Kay Johnson; Virginia Taffurelli; Sarah George Wessel; Paoshan Yue; and Jonathan Makepeace (petition candidate).

**ONLINE VOTING**

Online voting became available on February 25 with ballots due by midnight March 25. The election results were reviewed by the committee chair and certified by Donnice Cochenour. At the close of the election, the president and board were notified along with all persons who were slated. The N&E Committee and Bylaws chair were also notified as appropriate. The election results were announced to the membership on March 31 through NASIG-L and through a blast message from ArcStone. Results were later posted in the "What's New" section of NASIGWeb. Elected were:

VP/PE: Rick Anderson

Member at Large: Bob Boissy; Virginia Taffurelli; Sarah George Wessel

Online voting posed some challenges in this first year. Testing had to take place very quickly. A few members had difficulty accessing the voting site most often due to password case sensitivity or the need to clear the cache. There was also some very minimal ArcStone downtime. All in all, online voting was a success. Printing and mailing of ballots was eliminated, and the software automatically totaled the results. Two hundred and eighty-three members voted electronically which was down slightly from last year's 288.

**COMMENTS**

The committee did a wonderful job of contacting nominees, reviewing profiles, checking references, and providing input. I would like to thank all of them for their service and insight during this process. I would also like to thank our board liaison Denise Novak and last year's chair Dave Burke for their advice and guidance throughout the year. And online voting would not have been possible without Donnice Cochenour who led the ArcStone implementation. Donnice instructed me as to how to use the software. She put up our ballot, sent out blast messages, did trouble shooting on problems, and archived data.

**PROGRAM PLANNING**

Sarah Wessel and Erika Ripley, Co-chairs

**SUMMARY OF THE CONFERENCE PROGRAM**

The Program Planning Committee finalized the program featuring 37 sessions involving 85+

speakers. Additional programming opportunities being planned include poster sessions, various discussion groups, and the attendee speed-dating session.

**PROGRAM PROPOSALS**

<b>Number of ideas/programs reviewed from brainstorming, quick and dirty evaluations, and two calls (total)</b>	<b>141</b>
Quick and dirty evaluations	66
Brainstorming	15
Proposals from 1 <sup>st</sup> call	30 (call closed 8/20/2007)
Proposals from 2 <sup>nd</sup> call	30 (call closed 10/15/2007)
<b>Number of ideas/programs selected (total)</b>	<b>37</b>
Preconferences	4 (1 full day and 3 half day)
Vision	3

Strategy	15
Tactics	15
<b>Number of speakers (total)</b>	<b>86</b>
Preconferences	10
Vision	3
Strategy	39
Tactics	34

**NOTE ON PROGRAMMING CHANGES SINCE 2007**

This year, sessions are not being repeating in most cases. This has increased the total number

of sessions and speakers participating at the conference. Specific sessions with the highest early registration totals were asked and have agreed to repeat.

**SPECIAL PROGRAM EVENTS**

Informal Discussion Groups	Planning still in progress
User Groups	Planning still in progress
Poster Session	On display 6/7/08 from 9:30-5:30 and staffed during both breaks, 6 posters, 6 presenters
Speed-Dating	Planning still in progress

The Poster Sessions Subcommittee consisting of Meg Mering, Chandra Jackson, Trina Holloway, Sarah Wessel, and Erika Ripley sent out the call, selected, advertised, and coordinated the six poster sessions. Poster sessions provide an opportunity to share innovative ideas and new applications of technology. Posters will be on display on Friday, June 6 from 9:30-5:30. Presenters will be available to discuss their topics during both break periods.

- Paoshan Yue, University of Nevada, Reno Libraries: "Creating & Maintaining a Web List of E-Journals with RSS Feeds"

The Informal Discussion Group Subcommittee consisting of Danielle Williams, Sarah Wessel, and Erika Ripley sent out the call and are in the process of selecting, advertising, and coordinating these groups. The purpose of Informal Discussion Groups (formerly known as Networking Nodes) is to promote discussion among NASIG attendees who have a shared interest in a topic, idea, workflow, or problem. The emphasis of these sessions is open discussion and the generation of new ideas. Informal Discussion Groups will take place over lunch on Saturday, June 7, 2008.

Posters this year include:

- Deberah England, Wright State University Libraries: "Solved at First Sting: a Flowchart to Take the Deadly Sting out of Troubleshooting E-Resources"
- Deg Farrelly, Arizona State University: "The Prize of Vigilance: Reclaiming Acquisitions Funds through Format and Use Data Review"
- Beverly Geckle, Middle Tennessee State University: "Displaying EJS & Ingenta Titles: an A-Z List Challenge"
- Jonathan David Makepeace, Canada Institute for Scientific & Technical Information: "Scientific Data as End Product: Does the Concept of 'Serial' Have a Role?"
- Paul Moeller, University of Colorado at Boulder: "Using ERM to Provide Subject Access to Journal Databases"

Planning is still in progress, but the following discussion groups are currently scheduled to meet: Acquisitions; Cataloging/MARC Record Services/ SCCTP; EDI; E-Journal Workflow; Networking Node; Preservation – Archiving, Binding, Digitization; Scholarly Communication.

In addition to informal discussion groups, there will be sessions dedicated to user groups of a specific product or service. The purpose of these sessions is to share product implementation or development experiences and ideas. User group attendees will have an opportunity to discuss topics of common interest in a non-commercial

setting. This year, user groups will meet on Sunday, June 8, from 8:30 a.m.-9:15 a.m.

While planning is still underway for additional groups, the following user groups are currently scheduled to meet: Innovative Interfaces; JSTOR/Portico Archive; Scholarly Stats.

The 2007 conference included "Meet the Publisher" speed-rounds for attendees to discuss key serials issues in a non-commercial atmosphere with colleagues who tackle serials from the 'other side of the aisle.' We are building on that successful program and offering speed-dating again, in a non-compete timeslot.

#### *PPC ACTIVITIES SINCE JANUARY 2008*

PPC members have continued to work as liaisons to program speakers. Liaison responsibilities included sending speakers their official notification of acceptance, informing speakers of their reimbursement and audio-visual equipment options as well as conference and proceedings responsibilities, gathering biographical information, and distributing information for electronic handouts. They also informed selected speakers of their hotel confirmation numbers and answered numerous miscellaneous questions. PPC members managed an average of three programs each.

Other activities of the PPC co-chairs:

- Worked with the Evaluation & Assessment Committee regarding the conference evaluation.
- Worked with the *Proceedings* editors to help them contact speakers and coordinate

receipt of papers from vision and strategy speakers.

- Called for volunteers to introduce speakers.
- Coordinated hotel registrations, airline reservations, conference registrations, and AV information.
- Coordinate with the Conference Planning Committee regarding presentation of program information, hotel registrations, and AV information.
- Managed unexpected speaker changes.

#### *ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS*

The PPC co-chairs would like to thank the entire committee for their flexibility and hard work. The following people served on PPC and helped shape the 2008 conference: Norene Allen, Jennifer Arnold, Morag Boyd, Stephen Clarke, Michael Hanson, Trina Holloway, Sandy Hurd, Chandra Jackson, Bill Kara, Meg Mering, Bonnie Parks, Jean Sibley, Danielle Williams.

- Special mention goes to Jennifer Arnold who will be coordinating online speaker handouts and to Meg Mering and Danielle Williams who coordinated the subcommittees for poster sessions and discussion groups.
- Jill Emery, our board liaison, has also earned our most sincere thanks.
- Yvette Diven has graciously agreed to build on her 2007 "Meet the Publisher" session and coordinate the speed-dating event for 2008.

The work of the Program Planning Committee can be tumultuous; we count ourselves fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with this dedicated and enthusiastic group of colleagues.

## **PUBLICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Marit Taylor (Auraria Library) and Glen Wiley (Cornell University Library), Co-chairs

Committee members: Susan Banoun (University of Cincinnati), Sandy Folsom (Central Michigan University), Kathryn Johns-Masten (Siena College), Linda Pitts (University of Washington), Gracemary Smulewitz (Rutgers University) (part of year).  
Board liaison: Denise Novak

#### *NARRATIVE OF ACTIVITIES SINCE LAST REPORT*

##### *CONTINUING ACTIVITIES*

As part of our charge to proactively encourage publication of serials-related literature, we send out solicitations for new NASIGuides. We have

a posted list of potential topics on the web page, but are also willing to consider suggestions for appropriate new topics. Next year's committee should probably brainstorm for new topics. When someone shows interest in writing one, we work with them on guidelines, and then edit the completed guide for both form and content.

The committee also continues to seek NASIG members who are willing to submit new entries in the *Speakers and Consultants Directory*, to serve as potential speakers for meetings or consultants to assist anyone in need of specialized expertise in aspects of serials librarianship. Next year's committee should send out further solicitations for those who might be willing to write NASIGuides and/or submit a profile to the *Speakers and Consultants Directory*.

#### COMPLETED ACTIVITIES

This year Kathryn Johns-Masten, our Webmaster, with assistance from Glen Wiley, our co-chair, and other committee members, performed a complete revision of the *Directory* entries and subject categories. After two notification emails were sent to those listed in the *Speakers and Consultants Directory* about revising their entries, we received several updated profiles, which were posted, and removed the profiles that were out of date and for which we received no updates.

This has been a good year for new NASIGuides. In June we posted a guide on "Cancellation Workflow," by Trina Holloway. Recently we posted "A Beginner's Guide to Working with Vendors," by Wm. Joseph Thomas. Several others should be ready before the conference, including "The CONSER Standard Record," by Steve Shadle; "How to Survive as a New Serialist," by Glenda Griffin; "Institutional

Repositories," by Mary Greci, and "MARC Fields for Serials," by Beverly Geckle and Elizabeth McDonald. Two more in the pipeline are "FRBR Implications for Serials," by Steve Shadle or another volunteer, and "Claiming," by Ruby Cross.

At the request of Cory Tucker of the Conference Planning Committee, Linda Pitts wrote a publicity message for a preconference on "Emerging Trends, 2.0 and Libraries" to be sent out to various listservs. This is our first example of being asked to write publicity messages, and this is an area in which we may be more active in the future.

#### ACTIVITIES THAT SUPPORT THE NASIG STRATEGIC PLAN

We will continue to brainstorm and develop initiatives to expand and publicize the *Speakers and Consultants Directory*, and to raise the visibility of the organization and the expertise of its members.

#### ANY CHANGES OR EXCEPTIONS TO THE BUDGET

None

#### ACTIONS REQUIRED BY BOARD

None

#### NAME OF PERSON SUBMITTING REPORT

Marit Taylor

## TRANSLATORS RESOURCE TEAM

Frieda Rosenberg, Team Coordinator

Committee members: Ivette Fis, Interamerican Development Bank (Felipe Herrera Library), Derrick Hiatt (Brigham Young University), Birdie Maclennan (University of Vermont), Shana McDanold (University of Pennsylvania), Jorge Alberto Mendoza, Library, National Commission for the Development of Indigenous Peoples of Mexico, Frieda Rosenberg (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill).

Board liaison: Anna Creech

We also have help from non-NASIG serialists Sylvie Bissonnette (Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information), Nicanor Diaz (library school student, San Jose State University while working at Weld Regional Library, Greeley, Colorado), and one non-serialist, Miranda Burnett, a teacher, James S. Rickards High School, Tallahassee, Florida. All of the members are working on a voluntary basis.

April 2008

The Translators Resource Team was in hiatus for at least two years after the former coordinator left the Team. We were reconstituted after the 2007 Louisville conference, and I accepted the task of

coordinating the translations. We unfortunately got off to a late start through my fault, since I missed emails suggesting that we translate the scholarship and award applications into French and Spanish. I found those emails this spring and have now divided up the work. At present, we have translations of the text common to all of

the files in both languages, so that those who are working on the individual files will have consistent text for “plugging in” to their translation. We are hoping to have most of the work done by the time of the conference, and in plenty of time for the next round of awards.

Our current project is to translate into French and Spanish the texts of:

- Fritz Schwartz Serials Education Scholarship
  - Marcia Tuttle International Award
  - NASIG Conference Student Grant
  - Horizon Award
  - Serials Specialist Award
- (The Mexican Student Grant already has a Spanish version.)

Since we are all working on a voluntary basis, we have not requested a budget.

We will need guidance from the Board on other translations that will fit the NASIG Strategic Plan and further the organization’s current priorities. It will be necessary to name a new coordinator for 2008/2009, though I will continue on the team (if desired) after my retirement this July.

I would recommend to the Board a better placement of the Awards descriptions on the NASIG web page, especially once the translations are done, so that they will be linked from the Organization page as well as the Forms page.

## CITATIONS: REQUIRED READING BY NASIG MEMBERS

Kurt Blythe, Columns Editor

[Note: Please report citations for publications by the membership—to include scholarship, reviews, criticism essays, and any other published works the reading of which would benefit the membership. You may submit citations on behalf of yourself or other members to Kurt Blythe at [kcbythe@email.unc.edu](mailto:kcbythe@email.unc.edu). Contributions on behalf of fellow members will be cleared with the author(s) before they are printed. Please include your e-mail address or phone number.]

Welcome to the inaugural edition of “Citations,” a bibliography of publications by our NASIG colleagues. The purpose of this new column is to make the membership, our readership, more aware of the publications NASIG members are producing, the better for each of us to stay informed on the serials topics and research of the day. We also want to congratulate the authors on their accomplishments. Thanks to NASIG member Lisa Blackwell for the initial idea that led to this column. Find below our first bibliography of publications appearing since January 2008. NASIG members’ names appear in boldface.

**Bradford, Michael**, Mark Dehmlow, Anastasia Guimaraes, M. Ladd, Pat Loghry, and Marcy Simons. “Education and Electronic Resources (ER) Librarianship: How Library School Programs are Meeting the Needs of the ER Librarian Position.” *Collection Management* 32.1/2 (2008): 49.

Co-published as a chapter in: *Electronic Resources Librarianship and Management*

of Digital Information, edited by Mark Jacobs, Haworth Press, 2008.

**Chamberlain, Clint**, and Barbara MacAlpine, “Pay-Per-View Article Access: A Viable Replacement for Subscriptions?” *Serials*, 21.1 (2008): 30-34.

**Duncan, Jennifer**. “Working from Afar: A New Trend for Librarianship.” *C&RL News*, 69.4 (April 2008): 216. <<http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlpubs/crlnews/backissues2008/april08/workingfromafar.cfm>>

**Hahn, Karla L.**, “Research Library Publishing Services: New Options for University Publishing.” Washington, D.C.: Association of Research Libraries. 2008. <<http://www.arl.org/bm~doc/research-library-publishing-services.pdf>>

**Hawthorne, Dalene**. ALCTS course. Fundamentals of Electronic Resource Acquisitions. <<http://classes.ala.org/course/info.php?id=33>>

Johnson, Richard K., and **Judy Luther**, "The E-Only Tipping Point for Journals: What's Ahead in the Print-to-Electronic Transition Zone." Washington, D.C.: Association of Research Libraries. 2007. <[http://www.arl.org/bm~doc/Electronic\\_Transition.pdf](http://www.arl.org/bm~doc/Electronic_Transition.pdf)>

**Joshiyura, S.**, "Selecting, Acquiring, and Renewing Electronic Resources." In Yu, Holly & Breivold, Scott (Ed.), *Electronic Resource Management in Libraries: Research and Practice* (pp. 48-70). USA: Information Science Reference (an imprint of IGI Global).

Ramaswamy, M., Baillargeon, T., **Simser, C. N.**, "Making E-Reference Books Findable." *Library Philosophy and Practice*, March 2008. <<http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac/169>>

**Scherlen, Allan** and Matthew Robinson, "Open Access to Criminal Justice Scholarship: A

Matter of Social Justice." *Journal of Criminal Justice Education*, March 2008.

**Scherlen, Allan**, "Columns and Blogs: Making Sense of Merging Worlds." *Serials Librarian*, 54.1/2 (in press 2008).

Also published within the monograph of the conference proceedings of North American Serials Interest Group (NASIG) (forthcoming). This paper was the basis for a PowerPoint presentation delivered at two sessions co-presented with Bob Nardini entitled, "Column People: the Future of Columns in a World of Blog" at the May 2007 NASIG Conference in Louisville, Kentucky.

**Scherlen, Allan**, "Local to Global: The Importance of State-Level Library Journals." *Serials Reviews*, 34.2 (June 2008).

## TITLE CHANGES

[Note: Please report promotions, awards, new degrees, new positions, and other significant professional milestones. You may submit items about yourself or other members to Kurt Blythe at [kcblythe@email.unc.edu](mailto:kcblythe@email.unc.edu). Contributions on behalf of fellow members will be cleared with the person mentioned in the news item before they are printed. Please include your e-mail address or phone number.]

**WILMA BASS** has traded books for serials, having left her position as Head, Monographs, at the University of Maryland's Health Sciences and Human Services Library for a new position as Head of the Unit III Cataloging Section at the National Library of Medicine. Of the August 2007 move Wilma writes, "I've been a medical cataloger for more than twenty years, so finally making my way to NLM is sort of the culmination of my career." This column congratulates Wilma on her move, and wishes the readership to know she may now be reached at:

E-mail: [bassw@mail.nlm.nih.gov](mailto:bassw@mail.nlm.nih.gov)

Congratulations are also in order for **MELISSA BECK**, now the Senior Cataloging Librarian for UCLA Law School. Formerly the Serials and E-resources Cataloger at UCLA, Melissa began her new job January 2, 2008. She writes, "I'm having a great time, being in the happy position of being able to continue cataloging in my area of expertise (and passion—I am a serials geek through and through!), but also having the opportunity to learn and grow in areas

completely new to me. I am also very fortunate to be working with one of the recognized experts in legal materials cataloging, Rhonda Lawrence." Melissa is listed at:

Phone: (310) 794-4799  
E-mail: [BECK@law.ucla.edu](mailto:BECK@law.ucla.edu)

**JESSICA IRELAND** certainly deserves recognition (and congratulations!). A (relatively) newly-minted librarian out of the University of South Florida ('07), Jessica is now putting her degree to good use at Radford University. Capitalizing on her years of experience with serials as a paraprofessional at South Florida, Jessica now serves as Radford's Serials & Electronic Resources Librarian for Radford University. Contact Jessica at:

Phone: (540) 831-7158  
Fax: (540) 831-6214  
E-mail: [jireland@radford.edu](mailto:jireland@radford.edu)

Title Changes welcomes **ANNE RASMUSSEN** back into the serials fold! After a four-year

hiatus from library work to start a family, Anne has returned to the business as Serials Librarian at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside. Anne began her new role July 1, 2007, and "is happy to be back in the challenge-rich field of serials." A former NASIG student grant winner, Anne looks forward to continuing her understanding of the serials world with a "fantastic group of professionals" at Wisconsin-Parkside. Anne may be reached at:

P.O. Box 2000  
900 Wood Road  
Kenosha, WI 53141  
Phone: (262) 595-2420  
E-mail: Anne.Rasmussen@uwp.edu

Last in this column, but certainly not least, comes **SANDHYA SRIVASTAVA**. Sandy

started with the New York Institute of Technology on January 18, 2008 as Electronic Resources Librarian. Previously the Serials Librarian at Hofstra University, Sandy is still working with serials, managing the Periodicals Department and ILL, but is also now responsible for all things e-resources related, including collecting of usage statistics, recommending of new purchases, and addressing problems in databases. Sandy is now at:

P.O. Box 8000  
Northern Boulevard  
Old Westbury, NY 11568  
Phone: (516) 686-3790  
Fax: (516) 686-1152  
E-mail: ssrivast@nyit.edu

## CALENDAR

Lillian DeBlois, Calendar Editor

[Please submit announcements for upcoming meetings, conferences, workshops and other events of interest to your NASIG colleagues to Lillian DeBlois, [lillian\\_deblois@gmail.com](mailto:lillian_deblois@gmail.com).]

May 19-June 13, 2008  
*Association for Library Collections & Technical Services*  
Online course  
"Fundamentals of Acquisitions Web Course"  
<http://www.ala.org/ala/alcts/education/alctscevents/events.cfm>

June 4, 2008  
*NASIG Executive Board*  
Board Meeting  
Phoenix, Arizona

June 5-8, 2008  
*NASIG*  
23rd Annual Conference  
"Take the Sting Out of Serials"  
Phoenix, Arizona  
<http://nasig.org/conference/2008/>

June 15-18, 2008  
*Special Library Association (SLA)*  
Annual Conference  
Seattle, Washington  
<http://www.sla.org/content/Events/conference/ac2008/index.cfm>

June 26, 2008  
*Association for Library Collections & Technical Services*  
Preconference  
"Collection Development: Policy, Planning and Fiscal Management"  
Anaheim, California  
<http://www.ala.org/ala/alcts/education/alctscevents/alctspreconf/2008preconf.cfm>

June 26, 2008  
*Association for Library Collections & Technical Services*  
Preconference  
"Collection Analysis: Assessment and Evaluation"  
Anaheim, California  
<http://www.ala.org/ala/alcts/education/alctscevents/alctspreconf/2008preconf.cfm>

June 26, 2008  
*Association for Library Collections & Technical Services*  
Preconference  
"Electronic Serials Cataloging" (SCCTP)  
Anaheim, California

<http://www.ala.org/ala/alcts/education/alctscevents/alctspreconf/2008preconf.cfm>

June 26-27, 2008  
*Association for Library Collections & Technical Services*  
Preconference  
"Metadata and Digital Library Development"  
Anaheim, California  
<http://www.ala.org/ala/alcts/education/alctscevents/alctspreconf/2008preconf.cfm>

June 26-July 2, 2008  
*American Library Association (ALA)*  
Annual Conference  
Anaheim, California  
<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferences/b/annual/2008a/home.htm>

June 27, 2008  
*Association for Library Collections & Technical Services*  
Preconference  
"Electronic Serials 101: What I Wished I'd Known Before I Got in Over My Head"  
Anaheim, California  
<http://www.ala.org/ala/alcts/education/alctscevents/alctspreconf/2008preconf.cfm>

June 27, 2008  
*Association for Library Collections & Technical Services*  
Preconference  
"Cataloging Cultural Objects in Libraries"  
Anaheim, California  
<http://www.ala.org/ala/alcts/education/alctscevents/alctspreconf/2008preconf.cfm>

July 28-August 22, 2008  
*Association for Library Collections & Technical Services*  
Online course  
"Fundamentals of Acquisitions Web Course"

<http://www.ala.org/ala/alcts/alctscoted/alctscevents/events.cfm>

September 3-5, 2008  
*Society for Scholarly Publishing*  
Top Management Roundtable  
"Constant Content and Autonomous Authors - The New Role of Publishers in the Era of Empowered Authors"  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
[https://www.sspnet.org/Events/Meetings\\_and\\_Seminars/2008\\_TMR/spage.aspx](https://www.sspnet.org/Events/Meetings_and_Seminars/2008_TMR/spage.aspx)

September 17, 2008  
*NASIG*  
Fall Executive Board Meeting  
Asheville, North Carolina

September 29-October 24, 2008  
*Association for Library Collections & Technical Services*  
Online course  
"Fundamentals of Acquisitions Web Course"  
<http://www.ala.org/ala/alcts/education/alctscevents/events.cfm>

October 20-22, 2008  
*Internet Librarian*  
Monterey, California  
<http://www.infoday.com/conferences.shtml>

November 5-8, 2008  
*Charleston Conference*  
"The Best of Times, the Worst of Times"  
<http://www.katina.info/conference/>

January 23-28, 2009  
*American Library Association*  
Midwinter Meeting  
Denver, Colorado  
<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferenceevents/upcoming/midwinter/home.cfm>

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The *NASIG Newsletter* (ISSN: 1542-3417) is published 4-5 times per year for the members of the North American Serials Interest Group, Inc. Members of the Editorial Board of the *Newsletter* are:

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In 2008, the *Newsletter* is published in March, June, September, and December. Submission deadlines (February 1, May 1, August 15, and November 15) are approximately 4 weeks prior to the publication date. The submission deadline for the next issue is:

**August 15, 2008**

**NO LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED**

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