

# NASIG Newsletter

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## Other NASIG News

### Committee Updates

#### Electronic Communications Committee

October 2010

Co-Chairs:

Nancy Beals (Wayne State University)

Beth Ashmore (Samford University)

Vice Co-Chairs: Tim Hagan (Northwestern University)

Wendy Robertson (University of Iowa)

Members:

Jennifer Edwards (MIT)

Char Simser (Kansas State University)

Kathryn Wesley (Clemson University)

Board Liaison:

Clint Chamberlain

#### Continuing Listserv Activities

The committee has updated the committee listservs, NASIG.org email addresses for the 2010/2011 committee appointments, and continues to field any problems or changes that members send to [lists@nasig.org](mailto:lists@nasig.org), as well as messages for the membership.

The survey of the membership regarding communication technology that was conducted just prior to the NASIG 2010 conference has also had the

committee investigating both the return of the NASIG-L listserv, as well as alternatives to NASIG-L that would a) allow for members to opt-in or out of the forum; and b) allow members to participate via email or on a designated website.

The NASIG committee listservs have also experienced some outages. In early July, problems started with some of the lists working and some not working. Rich at BeeNet rebooted the system often to help issue. In mid-July, more problems occurred with Microsoft updates to the software. Rich rebooted for these issues and suggested the Lyris software upgrade. During the outage, we used some of the NASIG forwarding addresses to act as listservs, and we started investigating listserv alternatives such as FriendFeed and Google Groups. In early October, there were issues with listserv performance with electrical issues at BeeNet. Rich also indicated that the software/hardware upgrade is imminent. We received a quote from Rich for:

- Keeping everything as is (lists and included email accounts)
- Upgrading to new server/software (highly recommended)
- NASIG-L can only be added back if the server/software is upgraded
- Monthly maintenance

Please see quote information in the ECC Budget Report for pricing.

## Continuing Website Activities

The rosters on committee websites have been updated to reflect the 2010-2011 committee appointments.

Tim Hagan, Char Simser and Kathryn Wesley are now maintaining the NASIG jobs blog on WordPress (<http://jobs.nasig.org>). This maintenance included migrating the blog to wordpress.com (<http://nasigjobs.wordpress.com/>), where the general NASIG blog is currently hosted. The wordpress.com site allows for greater customization and features to be added to the blog as well as some consistency across the two blogs.

Wendy Robertson, Char Simser and Kathryn Wesley are now maintaining the NASIG blog at <http://nasig.wordpress.com/>. This blog continues to act as an archive for any "What's New" announcements that are posted on the ArcStone website, since the ArcStone website does not have the ability to archive these announcements or provide these announcements via RSS. Anything posted on "What's New" is also posted on the NASIG blog. We have also begun posting, when appropriate, "What's New"/NASIG blog announcements on the NASIG groups in Facebook and LinkedIn.

The committee has updated the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary history pages with the information provided by the task force. We are still waiting on the videos and slide shows from the task force to add to the website, as well.

This fall the ECC has also looked at document management options for three different committee needs:

1. PPC requires a system where conference presenters can upload their own materials to the NASIG website and have them available to conference attendees.

Currently, the committee has looked possibility of using a free site such as Google sites to handle such a task. The committee has also asked ArcStone if there is some way to set up a separate document repository that we

could give presenters access to to upload their materials, or the possibility of implementing something like Open Conference Systems (<http://pkp.sfu.ca/?q=ocs>) on the NASIG website. Because it is likely that we will not have a solution in place in time for the 2011 conference, the ECC has offered to assist the PPC in uploading presenter materials to the NASIG website, to hopefully lessen one aspect of their workload in the busy time leading up to and after the conference.

2. CEC requires a system where continuing education event materials can be archived.

This issue may be solved by any solution implemented for the first issue. However, drawing on the proposal made by the CEC, we also plan to investigate using an open archive site such as E-LIS (<http://eprints.rclis.org/>) as suggested by the CEC, or an institutional repository, like the one being used by the *NASIG Newsletter* (<http://digitalcommons.usu.edu/nasig/>).

3. Many committees require the ability to share documents more effectively than via email or downloading and uploading via the private committee web space.

Our committee is looking into using a combination of Google Groups and Google Docs in order to allow committee members to collaboratively edit documents. The ECC has tested it out with some of their own spreadsheets, and things look promising. The biggest stumbling block may be having the desired email address for each committee member set up with a Google account.

## Statistical Information

Website statistics are currently unavailable as ArcStone switches to Google Analytics. The ECC committee address ([ecc@nasig.org](mailto:ecc@nasig.org)) will begin to receive monthly website statistics from ArcStone in the future.

*List & Email Address Statistics as of 10/18/10:*

NASIG has 26 listservs.

NASIG has 38 @nasig.org email addresses.

**Action(s) Required by Board**

Attached is a report on references to personal memberships on the NASIG website. The committee would like the board to look at these references and advise us and other pertinent committees on how to best revise these parts of the website.

**Submitted by**

Nancy Beals, Beth Ashmore, Tim Hagan and Wendy Robertson