

NASIG Newsletter

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NASIG News

NASIG Student Grants to be Named for Founding President John Riddick

During its June, 2010 meeting in St. Louis, the NASIG executive board voted to name the NASIG Student Grants after founding president John Riddick, who retired from Central Michigan University in 2004. In 1984 Riddick attended the UKSG conference and was inspired to form a study group to determine whether a similar group might work in the U.S. That study group met during the 1985 Midwinter meeting of the American Library Association, and a further information meeting was held during the summer of 1985 at DePaul University. The initial group decided to move forward with a conference in 1986. An ad hoc Executive Council was formed, and John Riddick co-chaired that group along with Becky Lenzini. The 1986 conference was a rousing success, and the first NASIG election was held in November of that year. Riddick was elected president.

According to Tina Feick, another member of the original ad hoc Executive Council, the idea for the student grant program was Riddick's. The program was established during the 1987 conference at Denison University. The first recipients attended the 1988 conference at Oglethorpe University. The student grant program has been very successful in the years since then. A number of grant winners have gone on to become serialists, NASIG members and even a NASIG president! The executive board of 2010/2011 thinks it very appropriate to name this important NASIG program after our founder, first president and originator of the idea, John F. Riddick.