

# NASIG Newsletter

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## President's Corner

Bob Boissy, NASIG President

Hello my fellow NASIG members. I sense some excitement in the ranks. We have had record numbers of you put your name forward for positions on the Board, and I love that. As the premier professional organization in our specialty, we have a lot of leading to do. For those of you currently serving on committees, please orient yourselves to the activities on our calendar on the NASIG web site, and as the coxswain would say "Stroke, stroke, stroke!" for the Buffalo Conference around the corner in June.

I think a word here about the recent board meeting is appropriate. We decided to meet in Washington DC because many of us did not have Seattle and ALA Mid-Winter on our travel schedules (myself excluded). I think the choice of Washington DC was a good one, as we had Member-at-Large Chris Brady's Patrick Henry Library at the Department of Justice as our meeting spot. What a pleasure to be able to meet at one of the country's premier law libraries. Inspired by the setting, we tackled the topics of the day, two of which I would like to highlight. Firstly, we read through plans for upcoming events by the Continuing Education Committee (CEC). Our new emphasis on webinars for both members and the information community at large is timely and also a great professional opportunity for all of us to benefit from the range of expertise of our membership, and to contribute as well. If you have an idea for a webinar you could lead or join, please share it with our CEC. We will strive to keep these webinars reasonably priced for our members. But even at fair and reasonable rates, these events have been good

income producers for us, and do help underwrite other worthy NASIG initiatives, like our annual conference and technology supporting our communications to the world. Our long time member, Bob Persing, will be leading a NASIG webinar in February on developments with Open Source Library Systems; sign up! Secondly, I would like to let you know that your Board worked hard on a set of detailed recommendations by your Electronic Communications Committee (ECC) for updating and revising the NASIG web site. We think the result will be a site that is easier to navigate, easier to maintain, and generally more efficient. Thanks go to the ECC for their careful work. Stand by for more on this topic.

A few professional notes for you. If you have not been following recent NISO activities, I urge you to go to their site and do a quick survey and update for yourself. Besides the Presentation and Identification of e-Journals (PIE-J) Recommended Practice and the Shared EResource Understanding (SERU), there is the initial report of the Open Discovery Initiative (ODI) to take in. All three of these items are highly relevant for NASIG members, and there are others as well. NASIG is increasingly allied with Todd Carpenter's group at NISO, with many NASIG members contributing. This, again, is an example of our leadership role in the community.

Finally, a few notes about the Buffalo conference. I would ask all NASIG members to keep up with Susan Davis Bartl as she posts to both Facebook and the NASIG website about all the things coming together for

Buffalo. Karen Davidson and her program planning committee promise to keep us professionally busy during the day. Susan also has some great stuff available for us after hours, including museums, music, great food, and once again, baseball! I think you will be enlightened by the planned presentations from our distinguished visitors speakers, Bryan Alexander, Siva Vaidyanathan, and Megan Oakleaf. You are encouraged to learn more about them at the following sites.

For Bryan:

<http://www.nitle.org/about/bios/alexander.php> and his YouTube videos

For Siva:

<http://www.law.virginia.edu/lawweb/faculty.nsf/prfhpbw/sv2r> and <http://www.googlizationofeverything.com/>

For Megan: <http://meganoakleaf.info/> and

<http://my.ischool.syr.edu/Profiles/Preview/moakleaf>

As a final personal note, let me say that I lost a bet on the New England Patriots vs. Baltimore Ravens football game and now owe Joyce Tenney a recitation of a stanza from Poe's *The Raven*, and a gift not yet purchased. Well, anyway, on to Buffalo!

NASIG Annual Conference Registration opens early February. Sign up early for lowest rates!