

# NASIG Newsletter

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## Columns

### Checking In

Kurt Blythe, Column Editor

interests and will work with them to provide solutions.

[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.]

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Has NASIG ever been more popular? Continuing resources: they're where it's at! But our new members can say it better than I...

**Maryśka Connolly-Brown** graduated from Valdosta State University with a master of library and information science degree and also holds a master of arts in teaching degree from the former Augusta State University. She is the serials resources librarian at Greenblatt Library on the Health Sciences campus of Georgia Regents University, Augusta, GA. Prior to this appointment, she served as a copy cataloger and as the senior library assistant in the Special Collections Department at Reese Library, Augusta State University. She has been a member of the Georgia Library Association Technical Services Interest Group since 2011 and is currently serving as the president of the Central Savannah River Area Library Association.

In today's publishing climate, few assets are more valuable than industry knowledge, and arguably nowhere is such knowledge more valuable than in the serials information community. As a smaller mid-sized university press with a vigorous and growing journals publishing program (36 journals in 2015), The **Pennsylvania State University Press** thus easily determined to join NASIG.

**Nancy Hampton** writes that:

NASIG provides opportunities for us to develop the important relational connections of our business as well as to discover the practical resources for adapting to the changes in scholarly communications, whether it's learning about the cataloging issues or the complexity of multiple formats facing today's information specialists. Publishers need to know what challenges and opportunities are facing our major clients and partners. A partnership with NASIG also signals to our customers that we care about their needs and

Last year our library decided to downsize its collection of print periodicals to replace them with a largely electronic collection. Patrons increasingly had been requesting journals they could access remotely and we needed additional space for students looking to study at the library. This work in progress continues as title by title we are selecting

which journals we'll keep in storage and which ones we'll discard. The NASIG Conference was recommended to me by a colleague who had been before and found it very useful. Upon joining NASIG I began receiving *Against the Grain* which I enjoy reading very much. I look forward to meeting everyone in Dallas this May and learning from the experiences of those who have already moved to an electronic journal collection.

From **Leah Hamrick**, we have a librarian who began a new job as electronic resources and acquisitions librarian at the University of North Texas Health Science Center in September 2013.

I have worked in library technical services for many years: five years as acquisitions librarian at Texas Woman's University in Denton, TX and eight years as head of Technical Services at Lipscomb University in Nashville, TN. Although I have worked with acquiring electronic journals and databases in the past, this is my first position working directly with licensing. The preconference workshops offered at this year's NASIG conference in license negotiation and in leveraging usage statistics have come at a very opportune time for me. I have heard wonderful things about this organization throughout the years and I am looking forward to getting involved in any way that I can.

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Currently, **Liz Kupke** is the head of Electronic Resources & Serials at Georgetown University.

I work primarily with the library's subscribed resources, with a focus on the life-cycle management of e-resources. I have worked with serials for many years, my first experience being that of copy cataloging for a state legislature. Early in my career, I also provided interlibrary loan services, and

updated serials holdings in SERHOLD and OCLC. I have done everything from checking in and claiming periodicals; acquiring, ordering, and weeding subscriptions; to the ongoing maintenance of and metadata creation for resources. My most recent years have been focused on e-resource management-essentially trying to "tame the beast" that is the ongoing e-resource lifecycle.

**David Macaulay** started as collections development librarian at University of Wyoming Libraries at the end of March.

Before that, I was electronic resources librarian for 2 1/2 years at Concordia University in Montreal. The choice to join NASIG was natural for me considering the nature of my work with electronic resources; in the past I've dealt mainly with non-serial resources like databases and e-books, but I may be stepping up my engagement with serials in my new position. Also, membership gives me a significant break on registration fees for this year's NASIG conference - the first I'll be attending, and also my first trip to Texas!

**Linda Ryan**, coordinator, Electronic Resources & Serials Receiving at University of Calgary in Alberta, Canada writes:

I'm new to the NASIG conference and am looking forward to a great conference! The sessions look fantastic! It was very difficult to pick which ones to attend since all looked interesting and informative. Since I coordinate a print serials receiving team and an electronic resources team, all of your sessions are of interest to me.

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**Lori Salmon** is senior library assistant for serials at the Museum of Modern Art Library (New York, NY). Working with a progressive collection of printed matter, she deals not only with collection management but also with the materials' more challenging cataloging needs that sometimes bring about the most unusual circumstances in issues that are wearable, edible, audible, playable, and tactile in nature. Recently promoted in fall 2013, she decided to join NASIG to participate in the basic serials cataloging workshop at NASIG's 29th Annual Conference. Interested in opportunities to develop her skill set within this particular library niche, she looks forward to combining her recent activities both in graduate school and working within art libraries to further her intellectual engagement within the field. Lori holds an MLS from Queens College, City University of New York and an MA in art history and criticism from State University of New York, Stony Brook. When she is not working with serials in the library she engages MoMA's diverse audiences through library social media and public programming.

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From **Mary Ann Walker**:

I worked in libraries as a paraprofessional for several years before getting my MLIS. It all began at an academic library where I worked in Interlibrary Loan, back in the days of teletype and modems. I then became our church librarian for a decade or so, followed by an enjoyable time in a public library. The move back to an academic library placed me directly in the middle of periodicals and all aspects of serials management. As I earned my MLIS, I grew into the position of electronic resources librarian where I learned that there is much to learn! A move across several states allowed me to do some bibliographic instruction which helped me regain the student's perspective of databases and searching strategies. Now that I have returned to the same position I had before the move, electronic resources have grown so exponentially that keeping up with them "takes a village". Therefore, I am grateful for

the resources of NASIG and other professionals with whom to share the load!

**Maria Weber** writes:

I began working with serials when I was going to library school, and I only got the part-time library assistant job because I could speak and read Spanish. As I moved on, I was able to find work in serials because of that experience and it just built up from that. Ironically, I am now a library assistant at the same university where I started. Because of family circumstances and the scarcity of professional librarian jobs in Austin, it's been difficult finding a professional job here in serials. For a while, I did apply for various professional jobs outside of Austin and got some wonderful offers, but just couldn't bring myself to leave family here in Austin.

I'm looking forward to being a part of NASIG!

Maria Weber

Serials Cataloging

Harry Ransom Center

The University of Texas at Austin

**Derek Wilmott** started out as the serials cataloger, in 2003, at the University of South Carolina.

I changed jerseys in 2006 and became the Special Projects Cataloger at Clemson University. Over the years I have worn many different cataloging hats and by 2013 was reincarnated as the electronic resources cataloger, due to a major reorganization of the library. My professional areas of interest are the growth of e-books and streaming media (audio, video, etc.) in academic libraries. I may eventually work directly with e-serials in the near future, as our Technical Services & Collection Development Unit continues to refine workflows. I look forward to meeting everyone in Dallas at my first NASIG conference.

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Finally, **Yumi Yaguchi** has been the assistant director and supervisor of the serials and interlibrary loan (ILL) specialists at the Harrington Library of the Health Sciences, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at Amarillo since 2010. She is also a faculty associate in the School of Medicine.

The Serials Department is responsible for local-based serials management in the Amarillo Library, as well as maintaining serials holding information in the National Library of Medicine's automated ILL referral system (DOCLINE®). In addition, the Amarillo Library handles ILL service in-house. Journal articles are the most requested materials.

Like many other health sciences libraries, serials are the major part of our collection. Before starting my current position, I wasn't fully aware of the significance. Now with more than four years' experience, I am convinced of the necessity of a comprehensive understanding of the entire life cycle of electronic resources. For example, further understanding of bibliometrics will be valuable when my library works with the main campus library in Lubbock, TX, to discuss subscribing to or discontinuing resources. In-depth knowledge of an organization's licensing content and legal language would strengthen my preparedness to handle copyright issues during ILL transactions. Raising my awareness of current issues in serials online access would help me more effectively assist our library users who experience difficulty with remote access to electronic serials.

I believe my goal will be achieved through interaction with the members and continuing education opportunities from NASIG.

Thank you, one and all, for agreeing to tell your story to the membership. I hope everyone has a great time at the conference!