Profile

Continuing Education Committee
Susan Davis, Profiles Editor

It has been a number of years since the last profile of the Continuing Education Committee appeared in the NASIG Newsletter, and I've had this group on my "for the next column" list for at least some time. Now that they have had time to review responses to last year's CE survey, the timing of this issue seemed like the opportune moment to find out what the current committee is up to.

The Continuing Education Committee (CEC) supports the NASIG mission to promote "communication, understanding, and sharing of ideas among all members of the serials information community" through its activities. Providing continuing education opportunities in the area of serials for NASIG members and the serials community as a whole is the heart beat of the CEC. The CEC supports and creates serials education opportunities outside of the annual conference. Financial sponsorship of serials-related conferences, symposia, and webinars has been an important way of supporting continuing education.

The CEC has provided financial sponsorships for many conferences including the North Carolina Serials Conference, Electronic Resources and Libraries conference, the Ohio Valley Group of Technical Services Librarians conference, the Great Lakes Region E-Resources Summit, and the MidSouth eResource Symposium. CEC has also co-sponsored a webinar with the United Kingdom Serials Group (UKSG). The most important consideration for sponsorship is the relevance of the topic to the serials community. The committee accepts and reviews proposals based on the topic, objective, intended audience, speakers, and other details. Any proposals that the CEC recommends are sent to the NASIG Executive Board for approval of funds. Sponsorship has been our largest effort in recent years. However, the hope is that the committee will regularly develop quality programs and webinars that can be offered to members and potential members in all parts of North America, virtually or in-person.

In order to help the CEC figure out what type of programming should be offered, we conducted a survey of the membership last year. The results can be found on the committee website. The survey provided great feedback and was completed by 187 NASIG members. Prior to the survey there was a strong push to set up unconferences, but the results showed much more interest in webinars. In fact, 85 percent of respondents said that webinars were preferred. Upon learning of this preference, the CEC switched gears and are now in the planning stages to begin offering our own NASIG organized webinars. The CEC has investigated and recommended webinar software to the board, and hopes to offer a couple webinars before the next annual conference. Webinar topics will draw from past conferences and NASIG membership ideas.

A call for presentation proposals for webinars will be sent out to NASIG members very soon. Although the current focus is to get a robust webinar program off the ground, face-to-face regional programming is still

important to the committee. If you have good ideas and locations for events, please contact the committee so that we can help you develop it. Please feel free to submit proposals for any serials related continuing education events to the CEC at cont-educ@nasig.org.

Members

Apryl Price, chair (Florida State University)
Lori Duggan, vice-chair (Indiana University)
Sara Bahnmaier, member (University of Michigan)
Evelyn Brass, member (retired)
Melissa Cardenas-Dow, member (University of
    Redlands)
Linda Dausch, member (Chicago Public Library)
Todd Enoch, member (University of North Texas)
Kelli Lynn Getz, member (University of Houston)
Stephen Clark, board liaison (College of William and
    Mary)