President’s Corner

Carol Ann Borchert

Just two months after our 30th successful NASIG conference, and it seems like the summer is flying by! Facebook alerted me this morning that on this day last year in July, I was in Ireland on a walking tour. Ah, sweet memories…

And what a busy year it has been! Many of you heard Steve Kelley’s President’s Report at the conference regarding what we accomplished last year. Now that we have changed the name from North American Serials Interest Group to NASIG and have expanded our Vision and Mission statement, we hope to work on rebuilding our membership numbers this year. Steve announced a new tagline for NASIG at the conference of “Advancing and transforming the information resources community.” After some feedback from several people that such a tagline was longer than any of us would remember, the board voted to shorten it to “Transforming the information community.” As NASIG evolves over the next several years, we may alter the tagline to reflect our identity at that time, but will be able to still keep the NASIG brand.

We have also appointed two new task forces this year: the Financial Planning Task Force, chaired by Peter Whiting, and the Archives Task Force, chaired by Sara Bahnmaier. The Financial Planning Task Force will draft a financial plan with recommended financial goals for the next five year period. The Archives Task Force will be making recommendations for the best way(s) to preserve NASIG’s archival material.

And in other news, the board voted to approve and adopt the final Core Competencies for Print Serials at the close of the conference. This document can be used by employers to document the skills needed for this aspect of librarianship. The idea for this document grew from the Core Competencies for Electronic Resources Librarians. As the task force was collecting those competencies, they realized that print serials work has its own, slightly separate, skill set. A big thank you to the task force for completing this additional task! In the meantime, we have a new task force that is working on Core Competencies for Scholarly Communications Librarians. We are looking forward to the product of that endeavor as well. These documents are being posted in the Core Competencies page of our website under Continuing Education.

Also now posted on the NASIG website are the criteria for site selection. After the discussion about Indianapolis and its legislation earlier this year, several of the NASIG members asked what criteria we are using in site selection and requested that such a list be made available. The Criteria Examined in Selecting Sites for NASIG Annual Conferences is available on the Site Selection Committee webpage.

While I’m on the subject of thanking folks, let me add my gratitude to that expressed by our previous president for all of the phenomenal work that went into the conference and program planning for our 30th Annual Conference. We had a successful day of joint programming with the Society for Scholarly Publishing at the front end of the conference, and a fun night of
special events from the 30th Anniversary Task Force. I was told by one attendee that this upcoming conference in Albuquerque has a lot to live up to, but I’m sure our folks are up to the job. Next year’s conference will be at the beautiful Albuquerque Hotel in Old Town, from June 9-12, 2016. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend, and keep an eye out for the coming call for proposals this fall. If you have an idea for a program, please do submit it!