

NASIG Newsletter

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President's Corner

Carol Ann Borchert

As I write this, the Executive Board just had a meeting last week at our upcoming conference site in Albuquerque! The hotel is beautiful, and we are a short walk from the Old Town section. There are lots of interesting shops, several restaurants, and a couple of great chocolate shops. At Steve's Ice Cream and Java, in the true spirit of combining the best of both ice cream and java, our vice president, Anna Creech, asked for an espresso milkshake. She rated it an 8 on a scale of 1 to 10. As for me, I visited (and revisited) Pike's Peak Chocolate for their delicious selection of dark chocolates....

Right, we did do a lot of work while we were there, too. It wasn't all shopping and binging! The board had a very busy meeting, with some exciting developments.

Now that NASIG has changed its vision, mission, and name, the board has selected a new, updated logo that includes the new NASIG tagline of "Transforming the Information Community." Keep an eye out for that, which will be appearing on the website and in future communications soon. The board likes the community feel of the newsletter's circular logo, so we worked from there and kept the blue and green coloring.

The board is also planning to hold a strategic planning session around the time of our winter meeting in January. The current strategic plan is from 2003 and was updated in 2007, so we are long overdue. The board did do a contingency planning session in 2010, from which surfaced several new ideas, including the

webinars that Continuing Education Committee has been offering the past few years. We already have the Financial Planning Task Force in place to evaluate NASIG's current financial position and make recommendations for future action. And the Archives Task Force is examining the best ways to preserve NASIG's historical record. However, creating a cohesive strategic plan for the organization will give us a better overall roadmap for the next few years. NASIG has the opportunity to move in some exciting new directions, and we would like to make sure we are positioned advantageously for those opportunities when they arise.

Now that the *Core Competencies for Electronic Resources Librarians* and the *Core Competencies for Print Serials Management* are finalized, work continues to move forward on the *Scholarly Communications Core Competencies*. This is turning out to be quite a broad area, covering topics ranging from repository management to copyright consultation to library publishing. In addition to continuing work on this project, the board is interested in pursuing recommendations made by our final vision speaker at the 2015 conference, Anne Kenney. She suggested some actions that NASIG could take to become further involved in the cause of digital preservation for electronic content. There will soon be a call sent out for volunteers to examine this further and recommend an action plan. If you have expertise in the area of digital preservation, please consider volunteering for this.

The Awards and Recognition Committee (A&R) will be offering two new types of awards this coming year. One will be a Capstone Award for mid-career professionals, and the other will be a First Timers Award. Given that we have had so many first timers at the last couple of conferences, we would like to offer this award opportunity for that population. Also, A&R is expanding the wording of most of the awards to match NASIG's new vision and mission statements. We hope this will attract additional applicants for the 2016 award cycle. As I'm writing this in early November, the call for applicants should be going out soon, so please apply, or forward those messages to colleagues who might be interested or to your nearby library schools.

Speaking of applying—or nominating—nominations for the 2016/2017 Executive Board are currently open. I hope that you have nominated someone or volunteered yourself for this opportunity. This is my second term on the board, and I truly enjoy it. Serving on the board is a time commitment, but I like seeing the inner workings of NASIG and being in a position to help make a difference. Besides, it's fun! I have been fortunate to serve several years with wonderful, interesting, passionate colleagues on the board who are as eager as I am to serve the organization. It is these people who make my time on the board so worthwhile and enjoyable. So if you aren't planning to run for a position this year, I hope that you will consider it in the future!