

NASIG Newsletter

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Committee Reports/Updates

2014/2015 Program Planning Committee Annual Report

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Toronto)

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Continuing Activities

Danielle Williams will work to update the PPC handbook as needed.

Completed Activities

2015 Conference Program Slate

The principle business for the Program Planning Committee in 2014/15 was to oversee the execution of the program for the 2015 conference in Washington, DC.

Vision Speakers

Three Vision Speakers were selected by PPC and approved by the board: Dorothea Salo, Stephen Rhind-Tutt, and Anne Kenney.

Workshops

PPC identified topics and speakers for four workshops. These included COUNTER statistics with Jennifer Lefler, copyright with Lisa Macklin, license negotiation with Claire Dygert, and an eight-hour overview of RDA Authorities with Les Hawkins and Hien Nguyen. A total of 49 people attended the workshops.

Concurrent Sessions

PPC held one call for presentation proposals during the fall of 2014, which was extended for an additional week. A total of 55 proposals were submitted, and after a blind review, 30 were chosen by the committee to be included in the program. Declined proposals were encouraged to be submitted for the Snapshot Sessions.

This was our second year of using ProposalSpace for collecting and selecting proposals for the concurrent sessions. The committee made further use of the tool for communicating with potential speakers about their

proposals, and for the first time, declined proposals were not communicated by the Board secretary, but rather through ProposalSpace.

Great Ideas Showcase and Snapshot Sessions

This was the third round of the Great Ideas Showcase, which had replaced the poster sessions and provided a space for interactive presentations that were not necessarily suited for flat media (though those are fine to be included as well). The committee received seven proposals and accepted all of them.

This was the second round of Snapshot Sessions. These short presentations allowed for the sharing of ideas and tools ranging from electronic resource management issues to standards and recommended practices updates. The committee received seven proposals and accepted six. After the conference, the committee received a request from Student Outreach Committee to set aside a separate time for student presenters, which is currently being reviewed by the committee and the Board.

Vendor Lightning Talks

NASIG Tier 1 sponsors (American Chemical Society, EBSCO, and Taylor & Francis) were invited to participate in the second annual Vendor Lightning Talks. Due to some miscommunication, not all potential speakers were able to participate. PPC will be working with CPC and the Board to clarify the process for identifying and communicating with representatives from the appropriate vendors for the next event.

Schedule

The schedule was developed in collaboration with the Board and CPC to accommodate the joint session with SSP, which was scheduled during the time when we would normally have pre-conferences, vendor exhibits, and the Board meeting. The committee received some feedback from the vendors regarding the limited non-competitive time this year for the exhibits, which was an unfortunate consequence of the modified schedule. In 2016, we will return to the schedule as it was in 2014.

Once again, the online version of the schedule was created using Sched, and the printed edition was one of the formatted options from the website. Attendees who registered on the schedule website and selected sessions were emailed their schedule each morning.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

As in previous years, PPC required all vision and preconference speakers to sign MOUs. Additionally, beginning with the 2014 conference, concurrent session speakers were required to sign an MOU. PPC included the revised author rights, and in some instances, the MOU was further edited to accommodate the requirements of some speakers.

The workflow was improved over the previous year, with the chairs dropping signed MOUs into a shared Google Drive folder to be signed by the NASIG President and then returned to the speakers. PPC recommends that the concurrent session MOU be pre-signed by the President to eliminate most of the printing and scanning and sending back and forth.

All speakers but a few last minute additions were registered by the Early Bird deadline, and there were no last-minute cancellations.

Budget

Conference Session Speaker Costs

Concurrent session speakers were offered a discounted registration rate of \$187.50 for up to three speakers per session. There were 56 speakers with the reduced rate, and the differential from the Early Bird rate was \$10,500, which was slightly lower than last year's total of \$10,675.

Workshop Costs

Workshop presenters were offered a discounted registration rate of \$187.50, two nights in the hotel, and transportation to/from the conference. The total cost for travel came to \$881.40.

Vision Speaker Costs

Vision Speakers were offered three nights in the hotel, transportation to/from the conference, and an honorarium. The total cost for travel and honorariums came to \$2,482.

Sched and ProposalSpace

The online schedule on Sched cost \$99, and the total cost for ProposalSpace was \$537.50 (\$125 activation fee plus \$7.50 per proposal accepted for review)