Checking In
Kurt Blythe, Column Editor

[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. 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.]

This may be a controversial statement, but “Checking In” is really fun for me to read. Folks are coming to NASIG from so many different angles. It’s cool. That’s all.

For example:

Elena Bonjour is a current LIS student, hoping to graduate in December with a MLS degree from Emporia State University.

Elena writes, “I am very interested in all things digital, especially in digital humanities and usage of open access journals by developing countries.”

Angela Griffin writes:

I think I happened on the NASIG website during a search for information about MarcEdit, but I know that I decided to join when the NASIG “Statement of Inclusion” circulated to the Serials in Libraries listserv. As technical services librarian at St. Thomas University Law Library in Miami Gardens, FL, I am always in need of good information about e-resources and serials, but the time and energy evident in the “Code of Conduct” convinced me to join the organization.

Matt Jabaily started as electronic resources and serials librarian at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs in June. Matt writes:

I’ve previously held positions in various parts of the library (reference, instruction, library technology, information services) and various parts of the country (Wisconsin, Virginia, and Tennessee). In my last job at Rhodes College in Memphis I adopted the electronic serials duties because nobody else was doing them. Now that I’m in a full-time serials position, I joined NASIG to better get to know this area of librarianship and the people who practice it.

From Moon Kim, acquisitions librarian in the Pollak Library at California State University, Fullerton:

My very first library job after college was checking-in and claiming continuing resources at the Getty Research Institute in 2007 as a library assistant. As a direct result of working in a serials unit at the Getty, I naturally encountered many of the “issues” associated with continuing resources and often heard the librarians talk about NASIG. Since then I’ve earned my MLIS at UCLA; weathered my first serials crisis as an acquisitions librarian at the University of Washington when Swets filed for bankruptcy (luckily I got to follow the more seasoned serials acquisitions librarian, Siôn Romaine, and learned a lot through the process); and just completed a consortial migration at California State University (CSU), Fullerton where most of our records for continuing resources came over to the other side without a hitch.

I recently re-discovered NASIG online while the CSU libraries were going through the migration and there were many moving parts for continuing and electronic resources. The “Core Competencies for E-
Resources Librarians” page provided a helpful framework to bring the moving pieces together and the issues of The Serials Librarian (one of the many journals I used to physically check-in as a library assistant!) highlighting the annual NASIG conference quickly made me realize I needed to become involved with NASIG. I decided to apply for NASIG’s First-Timer Award in 2017 and was extremely fortunate to have been one of the winners to attend the welcoming and well-organized first-timer reception in Indianapolis. The award also came with a one-year membership to NASIG, which meant I was able to volunteer for the Awards & Recognition Committee to help others (re)discover and become involved with NASIG.

Anu Moorthy let me know that she is the electronic resources librarian at Life University, a chiropractic university in Marietta, GA. She is a regular visitor to the NASIG website and the listserv, and has referred to NASIG’s “Core Competencies for Serials and Electronic Librarians” numerous times to improve her professional proficiencies. When she found out about NASIG’s 2018 conference site (Atlanta), she became a member not only to volunteer, but also to attend the NASIG conference for the first time.

Matthew Ragucci, library technical services manager at Wiley writes:

I’ve been a librarian for about 10 years and have worked in various roles at an archive, public libraries and an academic library. Eventually I found my way to Wiley, where I figured I could really do some good from the inside by helping libraries with their technical services needs and assist with content integration. When I learned about NASIG, I felt a special calling to join and contribute to the organization. Collaboration between publishers, vendors, and librarians is an essential practice that NASIG actively fosters. I look forward to being an active member and helping serve this community as a publisher partner.

Katlyn Temple writes:

I have been employed as a technical assistant and cataloger at the Chetco Community Public Library in Brookings, Oregon, for the past three years. Part of my job involves troubleshooting and assisting library users with questions about Library2Go, our library's e-book and audiobook service, and Hoopla Digital, a streaming service for music, video content, e-books, and audiobooks. I joined NASIG as part of a digital resources management class I'm currently taking through Emporia State University, where I'm slated to graduate in August of 2018. Beyond the class itself, I'm interested to learn more about how evolving technologies are impacting patron access to digital content in public libraries. Public libraries still seem to lag behind academic libraries in terms of adoption of more recent technological developments, like web-scale discovery services. I'm curious to see how public libraries can use these technologies in the future to increase patron use of library materials and services.

Awesome. Welcome to NASIG, one and all!