Upcoming Conference News

PPC Update

Violeta Ilik, PPC Chair

Vision Speakers

The Program Planning Committee lined up three vision speakers for the NASIG 2018 Conference and they include Sören Auer, Lauren Smith, and Lisa Macklin.

Our opening vision speaker is Dr. Sören Auer, Professor for Data Science and Digital Libraries at Leibniz University of Hannover and Director of TIB German National Library of Science and Technology. Dr. Sören is co-founder of high-impact research and community projects such as the Wikipedia semantification project DBpedia, the OpenCourseWare authoring platform SlideWiki.org, and the spatial data integration platform LinkedGeoData. He serves as an expert for industry, the European Commission, the W3C, and as board member of the Open Knowledge Foundation.

Sören Auer's talk is titled: Towards an Open Research Knowledge Graph.

The document-oriented workflows in science have reached (or already exceeded) the limits of adequacy as highlighted for example by recent discussions on the increasing proliferation of scientific literature and the reproducibility crisis. Now it is possible to rethink this dominant paradigm of document-centered knowledge exchange and transform it into knowledge-based information flows by representing and expressing knowledge through semantically rich, interlinked knowledge graphs. The core of the establishment of knowledge-based information flows is the creation and evolution of information

models for the establishment of a common understanding of data and information between the various stakeholders as well as the integration of these technologies into the infrastructure and processes of search and knowledge exchange in the research library of the future. By integrating these information models into existing and new research infrastructure services, the information structures that are currently still implicit and deeply hidden in documents can be made explicit and directly usable. This has the potential to revolutionize scientific work because information and research results can be seamlessly interlinked with each other and better mapped to complex information needs. Also research results become directly comparable and easier to reuse.

Dr. Lauren Smith is a knowledge manager at Iriss, the Institute for Research and Innovation in Social Services in Glasgow, Scotland. Her work focuses on increasing access to and use of evidence and knowledge in professional practice across social services. Prior to joining Iriss she completed a Ph.D. and worked as a research associate at the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, where she researched issues including inequalities in access to higher education, young people's political information behavior, and the chilling effects of surveillance on freedom of enquiry.

Lauren Smith's talk is titled: Communities of Praxis: Transforming Access to Information for Equity.

Access and accessibility to knowledge for research and professional practice has implications for social equity and democracy. Library and information services have many opportunities to make knowledge discoverable, retrievable, and useable,

but on many occasions are instead (actively or passively) complicit in maintaining a status quo that feeds social inequality. In this presentation, Lauren will combine work by key theorists in the field, empirical research into information experiences and practices, and her own experiences of establishing an evidence search and summary service for the social services workforce of over 200,000 across Scotland. She will explore issues of access, accessibility, and user experience to consider the social justice implications of practices in library and information services, including scholarly communications and systems.

This talk will articulate how imbalanced power relations across librarianship and the systems we promote reflect those of society, and offer insights into how, through evidence-based, reflective practice, we can harness the transformative potential of library and information services to improve outcomes for society through democratizing access to knowledge. It will explore how critical approaches to user experience, privacy, and openness could act as springboards to change structures within library and information services. With these tools we may mitigate against the inequalities caused by problems such as inaccessibility, algorithmic bias, and ideologically-driven policies in the context of educational and workplace information practices, and maximize beneficial outcomes for the public good.

Lisa Macklin, JD, MLS is the Director of Scholarly Communications Office, Library and Information Technology Services at Emory University. Lisa collaborated with the Library Policy Committee and the Center for Faculty Development and Excellence in Open Access Conversations at Emory. In March 2011, the Faculty Council endorsed an open access policy that led to the creation of OpenEmory, a repository of Emory faculty-authored articles. In addition, an open access publishing fund was launched with OpenEmory, and provides funds to make it easier for Emory authors to publish in eligible open-access (OA) journals and books when no alternative funding is available. Lisa will continue working with faculty advisors as the libraries implement these and other OA initiatives.

Lisa Macklin's talk is titled: Open Access: How Accessible Is It?

The Budapest Open Access Initiative made the first public statement of open access principles in 2002. In the more than 15 years since, open access publications have proliferated. The ideals of the open access movement to make open access the default method of sharing research, however, have not yet been fully realized. In this presentation, Lisa will examine where we are in the open access movement; the successes we can celebrate and the challenges still to be overcome. She will also posit that we may have reached a moment in the open access movement when it is time to expand on our conception of open access and consider accessibility more broadly. Librarians have been central players in the open access movement, but is there more we could or should be doing? Should we broaden our definition of access to be more expansive and include accessibility? As we close the conference, we'll consider ways we can all contribute to making open access more accessible.

Preconferences

The PPC has arranged for four preconferences and they include:

Introduction to Serials Cataloging with RDA – Steve Shadle (University of Washington).

Resource Description and Access (RDA) is the cataloging standard that replaced AACR2. This Basic Serials Cataloging Workshop, part of the Serials Cataloging Cooperative Training Program, will offer an introduction to cataloging serials with RDA. It will cover RDA and CONSER standards, RDA core elements and terminology, transcribed versus recorded elements, new or revised areas of information, and creation of new records and serial maintenance. Attendees will participate in hands-on exercises which will include use of tools and documentation in support of cataloging with RDA. Access to the PowerPoint presentation will be given to participants ahead of the workshop via email.

A Beginner's Guide to MarcEdit 7 – Terry Reese (Ohio State University).

Released at the end of 2017, MarcEdit 7 represents the most recent version of the MarcEdit software suite. So, whether you are just hearing about MarcEdit, or have used it for years and interested in learning how you might be able to improve your existing workflows and processing – this preconference will endeavor to provide you with the tools that you need to take your MarcEdit skills to the next level. Presented by the software creator, the preconference offers attendees and opportunity to learn using real-world questions address issues like automation, regular expressions, and common MARC processing questions. Additionally, this presentation will look at new functionality in MarcEdit 7. From new linked data functionality, deeper integrations with OCLC, and new tools related to clustering and accessibility – this preconference will give users the opportunity to see not only what MarcEdit can do today, but where it is going.

Linked Data – Amber Billey (Bard College) and Robert Rendall (Columbia University).

Are you baffled by BIBFRAME? Overwhelmed by ontologies? Or feeling turmoil about Turtle? Then this workshop is for you. Learn the practical foundations of Linked Data with a particular focus on serials in this one-day workshop. The presenters will go beyond just talking about RDF triples and actually break down linked data technology and how its application can be utilized for serials. Topics to be covered:

- Linked Data 101
- Ontology Basics
- Turtle Tutorial
- BIBFRAME
- Other ontologies for libraries
- CONSER Standard Record to BIBFRAME 2.0 Mapping
- Current hot topics in serials and linked data

Attendees are strongly encouraged to bring a laptop. The presenters will be demonstrating online linked data tools that attendees will have the opportunity to use, and the workshop will include hands-on exercises working with ontologies and creating linked data descriptions of serials.

Beyond "Set it and Forget it": Proactively Managing Your EZproxy Server – Jenny Rosenfeld (OCLC).

When was the last time you really took a deep dive into your EZproxy configuration? Many EZproxy administrators are happy that EZproxy "just works," but they may be missing critical opportunities to provide better access to their e-resources. In this workshop, Jenny Rosenfeld, Senior Implementation Program Manager at OCLC, will share a simple monthly routine to help reduce your patrons' barriers to access and identify potential security concerns. We'll also cover current topics of interest to the EZproxy community, such as how to modify database stanzas to support HTTPS, for both OCLC-hosted and self-hosted customers.

Sessions

This year's program includes 29 presentations selected by the PPC via blind review process. In addition we have an invited talk by the Dean of Georgia State University Library, Jeff Steely, who was a past recipient of the NASIG Student Award in 1998.

The full program is available on the NASIG Schedule page: https://nasig2018.sched.com/.

Call for Great Ideas Showcase and Snapshot Sessions

The calls for the Great Ideas Showcase and Snapshot sessions are open until the end of March 2018 and shortly after the PPC will make a decision on which proposals to include in the program.

The Student Spotlight Session, organized by the Student Outreach Committee, is also on the program for June 9, 2018 at 5PM. We also have a vendor lightning talk scheduled for June 9, 2018 at 3:45PM.

Information for Speakers

Speakers' Breakfast
The speaker's breakfast will be held on Saturday, June 9, at 7:30am. This is an opportunity for speakers to meet with their recorder (if they requested one) and find out more about the proceedings write-up process from the proceedings editors.

Technology
Speakers bringing their own laptop(s) are advised to bring their own adapters/dongles (particularly for Macs). The Conference Planning Committee recommendation is to have presentation slides online with a service such as SlideShare and a backup on a USB drive.