Upcoming Conference News

CPC Update: Transforming the Information Community
Marsha Seamans and Sarah Perlmutter, CPC Co-Chairs

The 33rd NASIG Conference in Atlanta is just weeks away. The Conference Planning Committee is working hard to provide the best possible conference experience at the Grand Hyatt in Buckhead, as well as directing you to some of the delights of Atlanta. The conference will open on Friday evening with a presentation by David Bradley, a local historian, filmmaker and writer. Following David's storytelling, we will have time to mingle, network, and relax while enjoying some Georgian hors d'oeuvres.

Prior to the opening session on Friday evening, four preconferences are planned for Thursday and Friday, as well as some welcoming events including a student mentoring orientation and a first timer’s reception. We are hoping to have the first timer’s reception on the terrace with a lovely view of the hotel’s Japanese Zen Gardens and 32 foot waterfall.

The conference registration desk will open noon-5:00 p.m. on Friday and will be staffed all day Saturday and Sunday, as well as Monday morning. Conference Planning Committee members will be wearing lovely peach pins and we will do our best to direct you to where you need to be.

The conference schedule is packed with vision sessions, concurrent sessions, lightening talks, snapshot sessions and posters. On Saturday, start your day off with some of your fellow NASIG colleagues in a 3-mile fun run; you will be invigorated for the day ahead and ready to indulge in the breakfast buffet. At lunchtime, be sure to join us in the vendor exhibit area for a buffet and time to chat with our sponsors and exhibitors. At the end of the day when your brain is filled with information and new ideas, meet old friends and make some new ones by joining one of the dine arounds for dinner at an Atlanta restaurant. There will be some in walking distance and some that are a bit further. The various cuisines look awesome. Signup sheets for the dine arounds will be at the conference registration desk.
On Sunday, enjoy breakfast with your colleagues or with your NASIG Committee, before heading into the vision session. There are two sets of concurrent programs, a snapshot session, and the members’ forum on Sunday. Lunch and dinner will be on your own, with dine around signups available for dinner. As the conference winds down on Monday, absorb a little transformational knowledge with one more workshop and one more vision session, followed by a brief wrap-up and closing remarks. If you are fortunate enough to stay in Atlanta for the day on Monday, there are many museums, sightseeing opportunities, or shopping experiences of which to take advantage. Check out the Atlanta Attractions link to further explore Buckhead or venture into Downtown, Eastside, Midtown, Westside or other nearby areas.

Our audiovisual services for the conference will be provided by Action AV, which provided AV support at the Albuquerque conference. In addition to supporting our audiovisual and internet needs at the conference, they will be recording the vision sessions and one session from each of the concurrents to be packaged as “NASIG on Demand: Features from the 2018 Conference.” The “On Demand” package will be available free of charge to those who registered for the full conference, and at a very reasonable rate to those who were unable to attend the conference.

Registration is progressing smoothly, though at the time of this writing we are hoping to see our numbers grow. Tell your library colleagues and information science friends what learning opportunities can be found at the NASIG conference for a great bargain.

Check out the Local Information tab on the conference webpage for area dining, convenience stores, childcare options, coffee shops, and places of worship. There is also some information for getting around Atlanta and a link to the Parking Panda and Parkmobile apps. As we get nearer to the conference, Atlanta happenings during the conference time period will continue to be added. If you plan to do a lot of sightseeing and exploring you may want to consider purchasing an Atlanta City Pass or downloading a Savings in the City discount card.

Finally, don’t forget to check out the souvenir shop at Café Press for your branded NASIG 2018 conference items. Whether it’s a t-shirt, tote bag, tumbler, journal, or magnet for your refrigerator, you will want to remember that you were part of “Transforming the Information Community.”