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.]

Now then, let’s check in with our newest members to learn the stories of how they joined our wondrous organization...

I’ve worked in resource sharing and access services for over 10 years, and came to work with serials thanks to a merger between our ILL and Acquisitions departments. About a year ago I found myself thrust into the world of serials, and rapidly realized how complicated that world can be. I joined NASIG because the group and the conference came highly recommended from some trusted colleagues, and because I recognize the importance of building a strong professional network as I learn the ropes. I attended NASIG for the first time this year, and found it to be a very practical, useful conference, and one I’ll definitely attend again in the future.

Nora Dethloff
Head of Research Materials Procurement
M.D. Anderson Library
University of Houston

I have had a varied career working in three libraries in my hometown of Kansas City, Missouri. At all three, I was part of teams that supervised the physical relocation or catalog incorporations of large collections. I have also been involved with three ILS migrations and am preparing for a fourth. I started 26 years ago at Linda Hall Library. I worked up to Library Assistant in serials receiving and was on the Re-con Project of the Kardex to the library’s first automated system. I also worked in serials receiving at the University of Missouri, Kansas City, Health Sciences Library, where one thing I learned was about the convolutions of medical journal supplements. For the last 13 years, I have worked as Library Assistant in monograph cataloging in the Spencer Art Reference Library at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art. One of my biggest projects was to catalog gifts of around 3000 photography books. Our Serials Assistant retired at the beginning of the year and I have taken over her tasks, checking in subscriptions and gifts, cataloging new titles and changes, and serials collection maintenance. I look forward to being a member of NASIG and engaging with the people, resources and development programs.

Scott Easterday
Library Assistant
Spencer Art Reference Library
Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art
Kansas City, Missouri

I began working as a Library Specialist at Winthrop University (located in Rock Hill, SC) on June 1st. I am responsible for managing the print and electronic serials; tasks include ensuring online access to the e-journals and keeping our inventory up to date.

Prior to that, I began working with serials while interning at UNC-Charlotte, where I had similar responsibilities as described above. I then attended the NC Serials Conference back in April and joined
Christopher Girgenti

I was the Senior Manager of Product Data Quality and Solutions at Wiley until May, and my team primarily worked with continuing resources, i.e., serials. I resigned from my position and left in May to dedicate time to a job search more aligned with my professional goals. I'm interested in electronic resources (I have a particular affinity for serials) and OER.

Rena D. Grossman

My name is Dana Tomlin. I am the new Electronic Resource Librarian at SUNY Old Westbury in New York. I began working here on April 23rd. I am new to NASIG; I became a member in May as I am new to the field of academic librarianship and saw this organization as an avenue of support and additional resources and plan on devoting time to the organization in any way that I can.

Dana Tomlin

I am the Electronic Discovery Librarian at California State University, Fullerton, Pollak Library. I have been in this position since 2015. I have worked at the library since 1989. (I actually worked as a student assistant from 1987-1989.) I started my staff work in 1989 as a Clerical Assistant/Library Assistant working my way up the ranks and in 1995 I obtained my MLIS from San Jose State. From 1995-2004 I worked as the CSUF Branch Campus Librarian (at that time it was the Mission Viejo Campus located on the grounds of Saddleback Community College). I returned to the main campus in 2004 due to illness and became a Librarian Assistant in the Serials department from 2004-2014. During this time I became familiar with the all things serials - from copy cataloging, title changes, OCLC, and the SFX administration module. I was reinstated as a librarian in 2015, becoming the Electronic Discovery Librarian. I became indoctrinated into the world of unified library management systems when Fullerton moved from Millennium and SFX to Alma (we went live in the summer of 2017).

Greg Yorba