



President's Corner

Angela Dresselhaus

NASIG: Building our Reach and Supporting Diversity

NASIG is evolving and we are at a point where embracing our strengths, developing new expertise, and broadening our community is important. NASIG programming has evolved over the last 10 years to include topics beyond serials, we have created formal spaces for vendor participation, and we provided spaces for students to become immersed in NASIG and the information profession. Just this past year, we had a very interesting session on the use of inferential statistics to identify trends in library data. Many people were dazzled and invigorated by the polished presentations at the Student Spotlight Session. Our vendor sponsors presented informative lightning talks, providing conference goers concise updates on the products we use every day. Who knew we would be here where we are today?

The question I would like to pose to the membership is *who knows that we are more than just serials now?* Are NASIG members the only people who know how the programming has expanded, how vendor participation is picking up, and how budding information professionals are learning the ropes at NASIG? Does your boss, mentor, director, coworker, know that NASIG is so much more than serials? If not, let's brainstorm ways to demonstrate our value and increase our reach. Raising the profile of NASIG at our home institutions is an ideal place to begin expanding our reach. As I said in Atlanta, we can help shape the future of NASIG by reaching out to colleagues and committing to opening the door to someone new. Bring a friend to NASIG!

While we have come a long way towards a more diverse organization, there is room to grow, and Del Williams will be leading a committee to establish a structure to support diversity in NASIG. The committee charge is as follows:

- Recommend a permanent committee name, develop a final committee charge, and establish a guiding document for the work of the committee.
- Develop strategies to increase diversity in NASIG membership, leadership, and award winners.
- Collaborate with the Continuing Education Committee to Initiate and promote educational opportunities that address issues in diversity and social justice.

Once the committee roster is made public, you will see the talent and commitment to diversity that each person brings to the group. The NASIG Newsletter customarily profiles new committees and that profile will surely be fascinating. As this committee becomes established, there will be exciting news regarding initiatives and partnerships to support diversity at the NASIG Annual Conference. This is a new chapter in NASIG history and now is the time to expand our reach and create spaces that are inclusive and welcoming.

This coming year will be a pivotal year for NASIG and our future as an organization. I invite you to become personally engaged in securing the continued success of our conference and our organization. Talk to people about the value of NASIG, share an interesting conference proceedings article, share Open Access content from the NASIG YouTube channel, and support the work of your new diversity committee. Open that door!