



## Profiles

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### Profile of Angela Dresselhaus, NASIG President

Christian Burris, Profiles Editor



*Photo Courtesy of Angela Dresselhaus*

#### Who or what drew you to NASIG initially?

I was a scholarship winner and enjoyed my experience at the 2007 conference in Louisville, Kentucky. Two of my supervisors from my paraprofessional career were involved in NASIG and spoke highly of the organization. Joining NASIG and becoming an active member was an obvious next step.

#### When did you decide to become a librarian?

My childhood dream of becoming a paleontologist wasn't going to pan out and a library employee told me that library jobs were low-stress. I secured my first

position as a technical services student assistant in the Music Library at the University of Louisville in August 2001. The work was enjoyable and helped me succeed in research during my undergraduate degree. It wasn't long before I was sure library school was in my future.

#### What has been your greatest reward as a librarian?

Mentoring and developing new talent in the electronic resources field is my greatest reward as a librarian. I enjoy the management aspects of my current position and I aspire to develop my leadership skills.

#### How did you begin working with electronic resources?

I graduated in summer 2009, during a long period when full-time academic librarian positions were very difficult to secure. My cataloging background appealed to hiring managers, and I was able to land my first job in electronic resources. That's where I landed, and I have a habit of embracing my current situation and making the most out of it. Turns out, electronic resources librarianship was a good fit, and I made a career out of it.

#### What drew you to academic libraries?

As I moved into professional librarianship, my work history was grounded in academic libraries and the familiar environment was a comfortable place to build a career.

**How did you arrive at East Carolina University?**

Working at East Carolina University was one of my long-term career goals, and the right position at the right time opened.

**Have you had any memorable moments serving as a copyright officer?**

The title “copyright officer” has never sat well with me. The primary aim of the role at ECU is providing education and consulting services; it’s not a strong role in enforcement. After eight months as copyright officer, a fellow faculty member told me that I don’t give off “officer” vibes and perhaps the name of the role should be changed. She was correct, as I most often act as a mediator, advisor, and teacher when called to serve in my copyright capacity. Realizing that the community I serve needs a copyright consultant instead of an enforcer is my most memorable moment.

**Who are you currently reading?**

This will be a revealing answer: *The Joy of Doing Just Enough: The Secret Art of Being Lazy and Getting Away with It* by Jennifer McCartney. There is an enormous pressure to be the best at everything, and this book really helps me to become comfortable with the areas of my life where I have very little natural talent. One example is preparing meals—I am abysmal in the kitchen, and I do suffer from pangs of guilt. However, this book defines the minimum level of functioning and encourages readers to embrace it as “just enough.”

**How has NASIG changed/evolved during the time that you’ve been involved?**

Many people have embraced that we are not just serials! I started attending conferences in 2007, and there really is no comparing the programming in 2007 to the 2018 conference. The next steps will be spreading the news that we aren’t just serials and we have something to offer to a wide range of people.

**What are your priorities/goals as the president of NASIG for the coming year?**

Increasing opportunities for remote engagement with NASIG is a top priority. NASIG on Demand is a great step toward reaching out to a larger audience. This year, I would like improve the marketing of NASIG on Demand.

I’d also like to create virtual positions on every NASIG committee. There are many reasons that prevent people from traveling, ranging from financial and family obligations to physical challenges. Offering virtual positions would be a step in increasing NASIG efforts toward inclusion.