

NASIG Newsletter

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Other NASIG News

Committee Updates

Mentoring Group

November 2010

Members:

Gracemary Smulewitz (Rutgers University Libraries) and Dana Walker (University of Georgia Libraries), co-chairs

Board Liaison:

Katy Ginanni

In 2009, the committee established a forum for mentoring activities on the NASIG site. The forum was monitored for activity throughout 2010, and the activity appeared to be minimal. It is currently unclear why so little activity took place. Anecdotally, members mentioned that they must handle a lot of communication through listservs, blogs, RSS feeds, and other networks, and did not have time to participate in an additional forum about serials. It may be too soon at this time to judge the lack of participation; 2011 may show an improvement, and it can be evaluated again.

Approximately 18 individuals registered to participate in the mentoring program when attending the 2010 NASIG conference. The number was significantly lower than the previous year. Several announcements had been sent to library-related listservs, and there was an appropriate call for mentors/mentees on many fronts. Because of the low enrollment, a decision was made to include mentoring information within the invitation to

the First Timers Reception. This seemed to reap some rewards. The First Timers Reception was very well attended, and many who entered the reception said they would like to be partnered with a mentor and had not previously signed up. In the future, the committee might consider continuing this practice. It is a little difficult to pair at the reception, but it seemed to work, and we received feedback from a few mentees stating that they enjoyed their time with a mentor.

Sara Sutton, the new vice-chair for the committee and Gracemary Smulewitz (2010/2011 chair) met at the conference to discuss future possibilities for the program.

Action(s) Required by Board

None

Questions for Board

None

Recommendations to Board

None

Submitted by

Gracemary Smulewitz and Dana Walker