

# NASIG Newsletter

Vol. 28, no. 3

September 2013

eISSN 1542-3417

## Committee Reports/Updates

### Evaluation & Assessment Committee Annual Report

Submitted by: Sally Glasser

#### Members

Sarah (Sally) Glasser, chair (Hofstra University)  
Jennifer Leffler, vice-chair (University of Northern  
Colorado)  
Bridget Euliano, member Duquesne University)  
Maria Hatfield, member (WT Cox Information Services)  
Carole McEwan, member (University of California,  
Irvine)  
Peter Whiting, board liaison (University of Southern  
Indiana)

#### Continuing Activities

Review the Committee Manual, Committee Webpage,  
and NASIG Working Calendar for possible updating.

#### Completed Activities

In January, committee member Maria Hatfield accepted  
the position of Web Liaison.

In April, the committee began editing the Annual  
Conference survey with help from the Program Planning  
Committee. Changes were made to reflect the move  
from Poster Sessions to the Great Ideas Showcase.  
Additionally, the language for questions about  
technology needs was tweaked to reflect the increased  
popularity of tablets (in addition to laptops) and the

importance of wireless access. As in the past, the survey  
was created in SurveyMonkey.

In June, the conference evaluation was finalized and a  
link to it was added to the NASIG conference webpage.  
Reminders were sent out before, during, and after the  
conference to encourage participation. As an incentive  
to participate, a \$50 Amazon gift card was awarded by a  
random drawing. The winner was Regina Romano  
Reynolds, Director of the U.S. ISSN Center at the Library  
of Congress.

The Committee received eleven requests for individual  
conference evaluation results, all of which were sent  
out in July and August.

At the end of August, a final report of the conference  
evaluation results with a confidential link to the raw  
survey data was sent to the Executive Board as well as  
the Chairs of the Program Planning Committee and  
Conference Planning Committee. At the same time, the  
report (without the confidential link) was submitted for  
publication in the NASIG Newsletter.

#### Budget

None

Submitted on September 5, 2013

## Mentoring Group Annual Report

Submitted by Danielle Williams

### Members

Taryn Resnick, (out-going) chair (Texas A&M University Medical Sciences Library)

Danielle Williams, (in-coming chair) vice-chair (University of Evansville)

Gaele Gillespie, (University of Kansas)

Joyce Tenney, board liaison (University of Maryland-Baltimore)

Bob Boissy, (in-coming) board liaison

### Continuing Activities

No continuing activities to report

### Completed Activities

The mentoring program at the 2013 Conference was an overall success. The First-Timers/Mentoring Reception was well attended by mentors and mentees, as well as quite a few first-time attendees who had not registered as mentees before the conference. Thirty-nine attendees signed up to be mentees, thirty-four of whom signed up to be mentors prior to the conference. While most repeated calls for mentors went unanswered, several veteran NASIGers stepped up at the conference, and all but one mentee were paired up with a mentor, including those who had not signed up prior to the conference. As was done at the 2011 and 2012 conferences, the chair and co-chair were prepared to make matches during the reception. Despite the lack of an adequate meeting place, mentees and mentors were able to meet up easily, and any matching of mentors and mentees at the conference occurred with little fuss. Our thanks go to those experienced NASIG conference attendees, including Board members, who attended the reception and graciously stepped up as on-the-spot mentors, so that everyone who wanted a mentor received one. Additional thanks go out to the Membership Committee who graciously volunteered to assist with matching up mentors and mentees and were able to attend the reception and assist with set-up and

coordinating mentors and mentees to the correct tables.

There were several issues with the location of the first-timers reception. A proper room was not provided which created a logistics problem compounded when mentors and mentees arrived at the same time. A table was provided for the chair and co-chair in an attempt to match mentees on the spot, but the position of the table at the entrance to the reception area created a holdup for attendees and much confusion amongst attendees. It is important that a proper location is found for the first-timers reception. Lack of organization and a suitable meeting room provided a poor first impression to first-time NASIG attendees.

Continuing a practice established with the 2011 conference, the Mentoring Group conducted a post-conference survey of 2013 mentors and mentees about their experience. The survey was conducted via the NASIG SurveyMonkey account. All mentors and mentees were invited to respond, including those who were paired on-the-spot at the conference. We received a total of 47 responses, which is a 57% response rate. A summary of their responses is included below:

20 mentors and 27 mentees responded to the survey.

- 83% of mentors and 100% of mentees responding attended the reception.
- In answer to the question, "What did you enjoy most about the Mentoring / First Time Attendee reception?", mentors and mentees reported:
  - Meeting their mentors/mentees and other mentor/mentee pairs, networking
  - Free food
  - The relaxed/informal atmosphere at the event
  - Reconnecting with old friends, as well as meeting new people
- In answer to the question, "What can we do to improve the Mentoring / First-Time Attendees reception at next year's conference?", mentors and mentees reported:
  - More room
  - Tables to sit at/larger tables

- Better signage for meeting with mentees
- Bigger tables, more seating
- Most agreed that pairings made before the conference were preferable.
- 78.3% (18) rated their overall experience as “good” or “great”, 13% (3) rated it as “ok, neither great nor terrible”, and 8.6% (2) rated it a “poor” or “terrible” experience.
- No follow up question was provided to inquire why the found the experience negative, but a follow up question should be added to the survey if this is an issue in the future
- 100% of mentors responding said that they were willing to participate as a mentor again

Based on our observations during the 2013 conference and the survey responses, the Mentoring Committee recommends the following for 2014 and future First-Timers receptions:

- Membership Development Committee members should continue to volunteer to assist during the first-timers reception.
- Provide a room with adequate seating to ensure ease of meeting and to avoid a logjam at the entrance.
- A designated small table should be provided at which the Mentoring Chair and/or Vice-Chair can handle on-site matching

- Continue the drawing. A certificate should be prepared in advance to present to the winner clearly stating the prize (i.e., they have won free registration for the following year’s meeting).
- Continue to include a buffet, if possible. There were many favorable comments in the survey about the food.

The 2012-2013 Chair and Vice-Chair arranged a weekly telephone call in the two months before the conference to discuss planning, allocate work to be done and keep ourselves on track; this proved very effective

The outgoing chair and incoming chair met briefly during the conference to discuss the past years’ activities and plans for the upcoming year. These included conducting and analyzing the Mentoring Post-Conference Survey and writing the Group’s annual report.

### **Budget**

The Mentoring Group does not require funding for its activities for 2011/12.

Submitted on: July 29, 2013