Continuing Education through NASIG
Melissa Johnson, 
Continuing Education Committee Chair

NASIG’S Continuing Education Committee is committed to providing educational opportunities to members of the serials and electronic resources community. A series of diverse webinars have been scheduled during this current academic year that address various aspects of serials work.

In October 2014, Juliya Borie and Marlene Van Ballegooie from the University of Toronto Libraries presented a webinar From Record-Bound to Boundless: FRBR, Linked Data and New Possibilities for Serials Cataloging. The presenters discussed the complexities of serials publishing due to its fluid nature. They looked at the use of linked data and the potential impact on cataloging and how it may help improve information discovery and retrieval for the end user.

In a different area, Sarah Hartman-Caverly from Delaware County Community College presented DIY E-Resources Management: Basics of Information Architecture on November 13th. Ms. Hartman-Caverly gave an introduction to concepts in information architecture and strategies for the design of a homegrown e-resource management systems (ERMS). She provided attendees with information, tools, and strategies on how to design and implement homegrown ERMS using software such as Microsoft Access and how to evaluate commercial or open source ERM systems.

On February 12, 2015, Angela Dresselhaus from the University of Montana in Missoula presented The Electronic Resource Librarian’s Role in Digital Scholarship and Scholarly Communications. She described digital scholarship as an emerging field and noted the important role digital humanities plays in digital scholarship (DS). She noted the similar goals between libraries and the digital humanities. Ms. Dresselhaus provided an overview of current topics in digital scholarship and scholarly communications (DS/SC). She made the connection between these new areas, the traditional skill set of electronic resources librarians, and the Core Competencies for Electronic Resources Librarians (CCERL).

The next webinar for this academic year will be held on April 20, 2015. Todd Enoch and Karen Harker from the University of North Texas will reprise their 2014 conference presentation, Planning for the Budget Apocalypse. It will look at how the University of North Texas Libraries, which are funded almost entirely by undergraduate student use fees, have had to make a series of cuts as the undergraduate enrollment has plateaued. Initially reducing their firm orders and terminating their approval plans, the bulk of the cancellations for the past three years have come from serials and electronic resources. With each year’s cuts, the UNT Collection Development Department has been forced to modify and refine their de-selection process. This webinar will discuss the development of UNT’s strategy for determining cancellations using a variety of methods including overlap analysis, usage statistics, and
faculty input, and tools such as EBSCO Usage Consolidation and Serials Solutions 360.

More information on upcoming webinars and other educational programs sponsored by NASIG’s Continuing Education Committee can be found on the NASIG web site, www.NASIG.org.