As I write this in late March, I am getting ready to head to Glasgow to represent NASIG at the United Kingdom Serials Group (UKSG) Conference, so please pardon me if I’m a bit more disjointed than usual. You know how much there is to do when you’re travelling. Also travelling to Glasgow is this year’s Merriman award winner, Angela Dresselhaus, who will be the other half of the NASIG delegation to UKSG, which promises to be an informative conference in an exciting and interesting city.

Speaking of informative conferences in exciting and interesting cities, it’s not too late (if this is published before May 13) to register for the 2015 NASIG Conference in Washington, D.C. Of course, we also welcome walk-in registrations, if the deadline has passed. Your full conference registration includes access to a special joint program NASIG is holding with the Society for Scholarly Publishing (SSP) on Wednesday, May 27, from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm. This program, called Evolving Information Policies and Their Implications: A Conversation for Librarians and Publishers, is NASIG’s first joint program since 1992, so this is an exciting opportunity. Planning for this joint program with SSP has been in the works for nearly five years, with then-NASIG president Katy Ginanni starting the ball rolling, and we think we have a fascinating and informative program slate for you. In addition to the keynote speakers, Jayne Marks, T. Scott Plutchak, and Caitlin Tresande, who I told you about in my last column, we will have a discussion with two intellectual and copyright experts: Peter Jaszi, Professor of Law at American University, and Michael Remington of the law firm Drinker, Biddle & Reath, LLP. The program offers a lot of valuable content, and it’s all included in your full conference registration. As the press release announcing our program says, “Attendees will learn about public policy issues ranging from open access, grant funder submission and publication requirements, management and preservation of data sets, to access for the print disabled, intellectual property, copyright law and fair use.”

The NASIG Conference will have its traditional opening session after the joint program at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, May 27. The next day, our NASIG-only programming begins. We have three exciting vision speakers lined up for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday mornings. Dorothea Salo of the University of Wisconsin-Madison will deliver the talk, Ain’t Nobody’s Business If I Do (Read Serials), on the topic of the privacy of patrons who use electronic serials. Stephen Rhind-Tutt, president of Alexander Street Press, will discuss trends in the serials field in his presentation, Somewhere to Run, Nowhere to Hide. And, last, but not least, Anne Kenney, university librarian of Cornell University, will present Building a Social Compact for Preserving E-Journals.

Please note that because the conference begins on Wednesday, May 27, it will close on Saturday, May 30. Also note that we will not have preconferences at this year’s conference. However, we will have post-conference workshops, which will provide you the additional training opportunities you may be looking for. On Saturday, May 30, we will have three
workshops: Claire Dygart will discuss licensing and negotiation, Lisa Macklin will cover copyright issues, and Les Hawkins and Hien Nguyen will teach the first part of two parts on RDA authorities for serials catalogers. On Sunday, May 31, Les and Hien will teach the second part of their workshop, and Jennifer Leffler will teach a workshop on COUNTER statistics. All of these workshops have limited space and have a fee for attendance. If you are interested, consult the NASIG website.

See you in D.C.!