Upcoming Conference News

**PPC Update**
Anna Creech & Danielle Williams,
PPC chair & vice-chair

The 30th Annual NASIG conference is right around the corner, and we’re looking forward to seeing everyone there. We’re also pleased to share the Great Ideas Showcase and Snapshot Session presentations for the 2015 conference.

The **Great Ideas Showcase** will be held on Thursday, May 28th, at 4:30pm, and includes the following great ideas:

**Deconstructing the Core Competencies to Build the Digital Future**
*Stacy Baggett, Electronic Resources Librarian, Shenandoah University*

The NASIG Core Competencies for Electronic Resources Librarians identifies the most desirable skills in seven areas of concentration. Taken as a position description, the core competencies establish a set of requirements unlikely to be found in one librarian. However, viewed as a framework for professional development in the library as a whole, these competencies become an invaluable resource for empowering staff and improving patron service. This presentation proposes a pilot project using the NASIG Core Competencies for Electronic Resources Librarians to assess the skill levels of all staff and design professional development programs that reflect changing research needs of our user communities.

**The Impact of Research on Public Policy**
*Sara Rouhi, Product Specialist, Altmetric*

Academic research has a tremendous impact on public policy, and evidence of this can be valuable information for institutions and researchers to report back to management, alumni groups and funding committees. In this session we'll explain how altmetrics data can be used to easily surface this evidence - saving time and helping to demonstrate the real world impact of research. We'll show evidence of the positive effects of showcasing this evidence for securing grant funding, and identify other areas of online engagement that it is increasingly necessary for those involved in the research process to have a good awareness of.

**Reimagining Serials: Small Steps toward a Linked Data Future**
*Kevin Balster, ERM/Continuing Resources Metadata Librarian, UCLA*

Starting in late 2014, the UCLA Continuing Resources Study Group began studying semantic web concepts in general and the BIBFRAME vocabulary specifically. Our goal was to understand how things would work for serials and integrating resources in the new linked data environment; to contribute to the discussion and development of linked data models for bibliographic resources; and (if possible!) to try something new. Using just a few free tools, we were able to convert records from MARC, create linked data graphs, and take the first steps in setting up a demonstration triple store. You can too!
Using COUNTER JR5 Reports to Evaluate Usage of Recent Content

Chris Bulock, Electronic Resources Librarian, California State University Northridge

Libraries may wish to focus on usage from the most recent years of publication if they are considering leaving a big deal or evaluating journals in a fast-moving field. Many usage solutions do not ingest COUNTER JR5 reports, but they are incredibly useful for this purpose. The presenter will discuss the reports and how to employ them in analyzing use of current content over multiple years. It will include Excel techniques for combining sections of reports from multiple years.

Virtual Resources Impact Actual Space at Xavier University of Louisiana

Nancy Hampton, Head of Collection Resources, University of Louisiana

The Xavier Library was built in 1993 and for twenty years did not have any renovations for aesthetic or functional reasons. In 2005, Hurricane Katrina filled the library with 18 inches of water. This damage required that the first floor get new floor tiles and carpet. Wooden bookshelves were refurbished and walls were painted but everything was restored to its original setup and nothing was modernized. Last summer the first floor of the Xavier Library was modernized with new furniture and the creation of new work spaces for students. The basis of this change was electronic resources. As more virtual resources were purchased for the library collection, less shelving space was needed, creating more seating spaces for library patrons. Last summer, librarians worked to create more useful library workspaces and a more inviting library that students could use as a community gathering place, information gathering place, and study space. This poster will illustrate for conference attendees the Xavier Library before and after its renovation. It will also show how items formally collected in print and currently collected electronically, gave new space to the library.

The Snapshot Sessions will be held on Thursday, May 28th, at 4:30pm, and includes the following short presentations:

3D Printing Collections in Institutional Repositories

Amber Sherman, Assistant Professor/Librarian, Boise State University

Many libraries are investing in 3D printers and are sharing their creations on 3rd party websites. While sites like Thingiverse, Sketchfab, and Tinkercad provide an easy forum for sharing 3D printing files, institutional repositories of academic libraries are also well positioned to disseminate this work. This snapshot session will demonstrate how Albertsons Library at Boise State University uses the Digital Commons institutional repository platform to showcase the 3D printing designs of faculty, staff, and students with a 3D printing collection.

Beyond Cost per Use for Database Decisions

Betty Landesman, Head of Technical Services and Content Management, University of Baltimore

So the cost per use is decent, and the database price is acceptable. Is that enough to decide whether or not to keep it? Learn how we used Serials Solutions overlap analysis, Ebsco usage consolidation reports, and good old-fashioned student labor to determine if databases were worth keeping.

The Death of ILL?

Roën Janyk, Web Services Librarian, Okanagan College

The introduction of a web-scale discovery service created a noticeable change in collection usage at Okanagan College Library. Data from the past six years indicated plummeting inter-library loan and circulation numbers, and increasing full-text article downloads.
This trend is to be expected with the increase in online library services, but a conversation is needed that focuses on how academic library collections are changing. In a fast-paced presentation, the possible factors contributing to decreasing inter-library loan numbers will be presented, as well as what this could mean for future academic library collections and services.

**ERM for Competency-Based Education**  
*Lenore England, Assistant Director, Electronic Resources Management, University of Maryland University College*

Many higher education institutions have recently adapted competency-based education (CBE) models. At the University of Maryland University College, part of the development of CBE is to make available a set of online learning objects (OLRs), including electronic resources, that will be fully integrated into the online course curriculum, and most importantly, into the entire process of CBE. Since OLRs are stable resources that students can access throughout their entire CBE programs, this also means that electronic resources management (ERM) librarians have the opportunity to develop innovative strategic initiatives for OLRs, including different approaches to licensing, access, linking, and analysis.

**Functional Excel Functions for E-Resources**  
*Betsy Appleton, Electronic and Continuing Resources Librarian, St. Edward's University*

If we have learned nothing from the past thirty years of building the digital future, it is that no new system or tool has ever delivered on promises to fully eliminate our reliance on spreadsheets. In this snapshot session, I will discuss a few of the Excel functions that I use regularly to report, manage, or otherwise maintain e-resources data. Attendees will leave this session with a few practical tips, and the conviction that there is always a way to manipulate that spreadsheet more efficiently.

**Transfer Working Group Update**  
*Dani Roach, Head of Serials and E-Resource Acquisitions, University of St. Thomas*

This snapshot session will include a brief description of Transfer, which is now a NISO recommended practice. This update for attendees on the work of the Transfer Working Group will cover the transition of the group from JISC to NISO, the growing list of participating publishers, and the benefits to libraries. The transfer of journal content between parties, ensuring that journal content remains accessible, is a complex process. We’ll cover the highlights that can fit in 5 minutes – including the Transfer Alerting Service (TAS).

Additionally, we will be continuing the **Vendor Lightning Talks** that were a hit last year. This year’s speakers will be presenting new products and services, as well as any important updates. Vendors include representatives from the American Chemical Society, EBSCO, and Taylor & Francis.