Columns

Checking in
Kurt Blythe, Column Editor

[Note: Please report promotions, awards, new degrees, new positions, and other significant professional milestones. You may submit items about yourself or other members to Kurt Blythe at kcblythe@email.unc.edu. Contributions on behalf of fellow members will be cleared with the person mentioned in the news item before they are printed. Please include your e-mail address or phone number.]

NASIG continues to be the rock’n’est organization going. Just ask:

Tina Herman Buck, the new electronic resources librarian at the University of Central Florida. After a decade of mostly monographs, Tina is glad to be working with serials and continuing resources, and looking forward to getting involved in NASIG.

Elizabeth Elmwood has often worked with serials as a librarian, even if her title did not always reflect it:

Starting in 2007 as a library cataloger at the Historic New Orleans Collection, I planned and oversaw a number of projects to catalog, re-house, and move the research center’s serials collections. In 2010, I took a position as government documents librarian at Xavier University of Louisiana, where as a single-person unit I worked through a few years' backlog of uncatalogued Louisiana state documents. When the library relinquished its depository status in 2013, I oversaw the disposition of federal and state documents in addition to general cataloging.

Because serials were a recurring theme in my career, when a position opened at Tulane University for a serials and electronic resources catalog librarian, it seemed like a natural fit for me. I started in July of this year and joined NASIG shortly thereafter. It's great to be "officially" be in serials librarianship.

With her beginnings as a freelance fashion stylist and editor at local magazines, Olaitan Fakinlede quickly switched to academic publishing in hopes for more stability in the concrete jungle called NYC. She has now been in academic publishing for 6+ years. Recently, she was invited to bring her sales expertise to a NASIG task force by an influential librarian in her region. This will be her first time attending NASIG as an individual member and being more involved than in the past.

Currently, Olaitan is the MidAtlantic account manager at Springer Nature and with an academic and career background in biology, business, and English. It seems to be a great fit.

Rachel Miles is currently doing an internship in Serbia. A grad student at Emporia State University, she is a new NASIG member, and is finishing up her MLS this December.

I will then be moving to Manhattan, Kansas for my new (and first) library job as a digital scholarship librarian at Hale Library at Kansas State University. Mostly, I'll be doing scholarly communications work, and I have done much of my research during the course of my MLS program in electronic resources, licensing, copyright services, web design, altmetrics and bibliometrics, and metadata.

Michelle Polchow is the electronic resources librarian at George Mason University. She serves on NASIG's
Conference Planning Committee for Albuquerque and looks forward to coordinating audio-visual requirements and planning the social event. At Mason, her responsibilities include working with staff in the Collection Development Department and Technical Services Group to manage and formulate the strategic direction of the libraries’ e-resources. Professional interests include intellectual property, copyright, user-interface design, information architecture, and workflow mapping. Previous experience includes digital content services librarian at U.S. News & World Report, web design and content management for Catholic University, and national and international meeting planning for the National Conference of State Legislatures.

Xiaoyan Song is an e-resource librarian in the Acquisitions and Discovery Department at North Carolina State University Libraries.

My path to become an e-resource librarian is fairly straightforward and smooth. It began with a part-time job in the technical service department at Harvard University Libraries, followed by a visiting librarian position in the cataloging unit at College of William and Mary, and now managing e-resources, especially e-books, at NCSU. I enjoy juggling all pieces related to e-resources from trouble-shooting, acquisition, licensing, and cataloging to systems and tools. I especially appreciate the opportunity to define the new role of an e-resource librarian in the ever-changing library world. I believe being part of NASIG will help me to connect with other librarians, to advance the scholarship aspect in my librarianship, and to contribute back to the community via presentation and committee work.

(I couldn’t agree more. –Kurt)