Technical Services Interest Group Minutes

"Ask Technical Services"
Thursday, September 21, 2006
10:30 am
GaCOMO 2006
The Classic Center
Athens, Georgia

Present: Tessa Minchew, Carol Wheeler, Kelly Holt, Elizabeth Winter, Adam Kubik, Dianne Gilmer, Rose Davis, Heidi V. Benford, Kathy Gallo, Jack Fisher, Elaine Yontz, Iris Durden, Debra Skinner, Kim Nichols, Patty Phipps, Cathy Jeffrey, Holly Jarrell

Call to Order and Welcome:

Jack Fisher called the session to order at 10:30 am. He introduced himself as the Chair of the GLA Technical Services Interest Group. The other officers and attendees then introduced themselves, while a roll sheet was passed around the room.

Elections for 2007 Officers:

Jack Fisher announced the elections for the 2007 GLA TSIG officers, and had the candidates in attendance speak briefly about their qualifications. Mr. Fisher then issued a call for nominations from the floor, of which there were none. Ballots were distributed and voting commenced. Jack Fisher and Cathy Jeffrey counted the votes. Elizabeth Winter was elected Secretary/Treasurer, and Tessa Minchew was elected Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect. They will take their offices in January.

Discussion of 2007 GaCOMO Programming:

Patty Phipps, Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, reminded everyone to contact her about technical services programming for 2007 GaCOMO, and asked if anyone present had any suggestions. Ideas included the topics of Acquisitions (particularly as it relates to Voyager), and repeating a book repair program that Cathy Jeffrey conducted a few years ago. Jack Fisher pointed out that there is nothing wrong with repeating programming every couple of years to tap into new audiences.

GIL Authority Control Update:

Cathy Jeffrey reported that the GIL authority control workshop she organized for Wednesday, September 20, went well and had good attendance. She went on to remind the group that the fact that the Library of Congress is moving away from some authority work should give us all a wake-up call. Cathy pointed out that if we want continued support for these programs we need to be aware of national trends that will affect us locally, such as the Calhoun and Mann reports. She noted that the authority control workshop the day before announced support for authority control through GIL, and authority control in general. She then reminded the group to vocalize their support for authority control loudly and frequently.

2006 COMO Sessions and Announcements of Technical Services Interest:

Jack Fisher discussed the previous day's tour of the Digital Library of Georgia. He pointed out that metadata and cataloging are important to accessing older and digital materials. He then discussed a paper that he and Elaine Yontz wrote about recycling, which they were scheduled to

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present later that day at the GLA Academic Library Division Papers session. Jack encouraged everyone to participate in this call for papers next year.

Tessa Minchew then discussed the session she was scheduled to present the following morning, "DVD Cataloging Basics." She then told the group about some updates to the TSIG web page, one of which is that she is now posting minutes there. Tessa also mentioned that the Technical Services Resources page was recently updated and if anyone saw any errors or omissions, or would like to add anything, they should contact her. Jack Fisher pointed out that if more people would employ this page and offer input on it, it would make it more useful for everyone.

Jack Fisher then discussed a database design class that is being offered at Valdosta State University, and said that anyone interested could contact him for specifics, as the course will most likely be offered again. Elaine Yontz then mentioned that VSU will also be offering an information architecture class next semester, focusing on designing web pages for usability. She also pointed out that employees of the University System of Georgia may use their tuition remission benefits for these classes.

ALCTS Anniversary at 2007 ALA Annual:

Elaine Yontz then spoke about the Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS), of which she is a board member this year. They are having a 50th anniversary celebration in conjunction with the ALA annual meeting this summer in Washington, D.C. There will be a two-day ALCTS conference, focused on the future of technical services, and anyone who is interested can contact Elaine or visit http://www.ala.org/alcts for more information.

VSU Ordering Database Progress Report and Other Topics of Interest:

Jack Fisher then discussed the ordering database he presented on at the last Ask Technical Services in 2005. He noted that in the following week they would be releasing group email access to the Access database for ordering. After selectors enter their orders in the database, Acquisitions will pick them up and print the cards as the orders are processed. The professor who is teaching the database class at VSU has expressed interest in mounting the ordering database on the Web, if the programming and security issues can be overcome.

Discussion then moved to the group. The Calhoun and Mann reports were brought up. Cathy Jeffrey asked if Tessa Minchew could have those links added to the TSIG page on the Georgia Library Association website. Elaine Yontz remarked that she was curious about non-MARC cataloging projects and was wondering who in the state was involved in that. The group consensus was that UGA and Georgia Tech were the main players in that area. Jack Fisher asked the group about paraprofessional salaries. He noted that, at Valdosta State University, their pay grades have been very static because of their job classification. The administration recently put out a survey to evaluate staff positions. Cathy Jeffrey remarked that something similar happened at Clayton State University and employees were re-classed accordingly, with much better salaries. Cathy also mentioned that certification has been discussed as a way to help improve the salaries of paraprofessionals. The Georgia Perimeter College LIST program was mentioned during this discussion.

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The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am.

Next Meeting:

2007 GLA Mid-Winter Conference (Time, date, and place to be announced)

Respectfully submitted, Tessa Minchew Secretary/Treasurer

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