

**GLA Technical Services Interest Group (TSIG) Minutes
GLA Mid-Winter Planning Conference
Clayton State University, Morrow, Georgia
Friday, January 27, 2012, 1:35 pm**

Present

LouAnn Blocker (Augusta State)
Bonni Capobianco (Southern Crescent Tech)
Maryska Connolly-Brown (Augusta State)
Amy Eklund (Georgia Perimeter)
Guy Frost (Valdosta State)
Laura Herndon (Clayton State)
Nancy Holmes (Piedmont Regional Library)
Cathy Jeffrey (Clayton State)
Linda Jones (Columbus State)
Adam Kubik (Clayton State)
Ayaba Logan (U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory)
Kyle McCarrell (Augusta State)
David Minchew (Georgia Archives)
Tessa Minchew (Georgia Perimeter)
Jolanta Radzik (Chattahoochee Valley Libraries)
Melissa Roberts (Georgia Perimeter)
Thom Shelton
Sofia Slutskaya (Georgia Perimeter)
Shelley Smith (Univ. of West Georgia)
Florence Tang (Mercer Univ.)
Christina Teasley (North Georgia Tech)
Linh Uong (Hall County Library System)

Welcome and announcements

Shelley Smith, outgoing Chair, called the session to order and introduced the new Chair, Kyle McCarrell. Kyle introduced the other officers, Jolanta Radzik (Vice-Chair) and Linh Uong (Secretary), and said if anyone was interested in serving as officers next year, please let the officers know.

New Business

1. TSIG as a vehicle to promote research.

Amy Eklund proposed creating a working group to explore using TSIG as a vehicle to promote statewide technical services research. Her idea was inspired by a January 4th AUTOCAT post by Melissa De Fino (Rutgers Univ.), who is a member of the Bibliographic Control and Metadata Committee of the Virtual Academic Library Environment (VALE) of New Jersey (<http://www.valenj.org/committees/bibliographic-control-and-metadata>). The committee is conducting a survey on how cataloging departments are assessed and how that affects users.

Amy said that the committee sounds very much like TSIG, but with a research component; this could be something that TSIG could do and might lead to more session proposals for COMO. Cathy Jeffrey seconded the idea and said that it would be nice to have something positive to discuss. Guy Frost added that it would be something tangible that people could bring back to their institutions; for example, we're researching how our catalog increases student retention. Shelley Smith said that others may be interested in our working group too. Kyle recommended that Amy be the contact, organize the working group, and update TSIG the next time we meet. The following members volunteered to serve on the Research Working Group:

Amy Eklund (co-chair)
Guy Frost (co-chair)
Adam Kubik
Ayaba Logan
Jolanta Radzik
Melissa Roberts
Sofia Slutskaya
Linh Uong

2. Communication within TSIG

Kyle said that since the last TSIG meeting, the Georgia Public Library Service (GPLS) has opened up their CATTECH listserv to all technical services librarians in the state. CATTECH is a moderated listserv and even though there hasn't been too much traffic, the feedback has been positive. Cathy added that CATTECH isn't like AUTOCAT where people get picked on and Elaine Hardy, who is the moderator, is quite serious about keeping it positive.

Kyle then brought up a question that Jolanta had, "Should TSIG should start its own listserv for its members?" Cathy said no, it wouldn't be a good idea to have yet another listserv. Case in point is the University System of Georgia (USG) listservs, which aren't really active at all. Ten years ago they were, but they weren't advertised, so new folks didn't know about the listservs and interest declined.

The overall consensus was that a new TSIG listserv shouldn't be started and what we have in place now (i.e. G2, CATTECH) is sufficient for our needs. Tessa Minchew, webmaster for GLA, mentioned that the content for the TSIG and other GLA webpages have been moved to wiki pages and she's working on creating logins for all officers.

3. Program ideas for COMO

As an FYI, Cathy wanted to mention that the GLA executive committee decided to re-do the proposal form so that there were check boxes for audience type (e.g. academic, public, school) as well as subject (e.g. technical services, circulation). Hopefully this will help in scheduling programs this year. On a sad note, Jim and Shirley Clark are retiring this year and won't be handling registration for COMO, so there may be some changes in things such as proposal deadlines.

Kyle asked members to please submit proposals; Shelley also added that members should check off on their form that TSIG is sponsoring their session.

Jolanta suggested a session on how to implement RDA, what policies should be in place, and what do supervisors need to know? She also suggested a session on “A day in the life of a book” showing non-catalogers what happens to a book before it gets out to the shelves.

Guy proposed an RDA session on what LC core elements are used when cataloging a book, for example, and what LC is doing and what options your library has when using RDA.

Linh suggested a session on “What new catalogers need to know?”

Several members said that the acquisitions and serials roundtables were really helpful. Shelley suggested offering a cataloging roundtable along with acquisitions and serials, and LouAnn Blocker suggested one for e-resources. Cathy recommended taking turns with roundtable topics so that folks aren’t overloaded with the same topics year-to-year and she said to keep in mind that the Southeastern Library Association (SELA) will be at COMO this year. Kyle proposed the following rotation for roundtables, starting this year in Macon.

Year 1: E-resources, including e-books; Cataloging/metadata

Year 2: Acquisitions; Serials

General discussion

David Minchew, speaking from a public services perspective and not as a technical services person per se, said that there’s a divide between technical services and public services. Those in technical services need to market themselves, i.e. what do we do in technical services and why it important?

Sofia added that we need to assess technical services in the bigger picture of the library, for example, finding ways for public and technical services to collaborate.

Shelley brought up the point that public services don’t just want to know what catalogers are doing; they want to know what’s in it for them (to attend technical services sessions)?

Laura Herndon agreed and said that there are a lot of things that public services folks, like those in reference, don’t realize they can find in the catalog. Nancy Holmes gave an example, i.e. using language delimiters to find Spanish materials.

Kyle mentioned that he and LouAnn had presented a session at the recent Charleston Conference (<http://www.katina.info/conference/>) on how to market technical services to faculty and staff, and develop relationships. He said that reference and other public services librarians don’t necessarily know what they’re missing. So it’s up to us to show them by taking the next step, being proactive, stepping out of our comfort zones, and promoting ourselves – and say to folks, “Let’s go to lunch and talk” or ask, “What can we do to make things better for you?”

LouAnn gave an example: At Augusta State, they started attending academic department meetings to share what they’ve accomplished, e.g. this is what we’ve added to library’s collection this past year. It didn’t seem to step on anyone’s toes and one of the things they learned was that some instructors and professors really didn’t know what databases were accessible through the library.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Next Meeting

COMO, Macon, Oct. 3-5, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,
Linh Uong
Secretary