GLA Technical Services Interest Group (TSIG) Minutes
GaCOMO Conference
Macon Marriott/Centreplex, Macon, GA
October 4, 2012, 3:20 p.m.

Present

Sandra Barclay (Kennesaw State)
Maryska Connolly-Brown (Augusta State)
Amy Eklund (Georgia Perimeter)
Guy Frost (Valdosta State)
Laura Herndon (Clayton State)
Hyun Kim (Kennesaw State)
Adam Kubik (Clayton State)
Alan Lebish (Kennesaw State)
Kyle McCarrell (Augusta State)
Barbara Mclam (Kennesaw State)
Amy McGee (Reinhardt Univ.)
Tessa Minchew (Georgia Perimeter)
Patty Phipps (Georgia Technical)
Jolanta Radzik (Chattahoochee Valley Libraries)
Todd Roberson (Coastal Plain Regional Library System)
Olga Russov (Kennesaw State)
Thom Shelton
Sofia Slutskaya (Georgia Perimeter)
Sharon Sulkers (Middle Georgia Regional Library System)
Florence Tang (Mercer Univ.)
Ariel Turner (Kennesaw State)
Linh Uong (Hall County Library System)

Welcome

Kyle McCarrell, Chair, called the meeting to order and introduced the other officers: Jolanta Radzik, Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, and Linh Uong, Secretary.

New Business

1. Elections: As there were no pre-selected candidates for Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, Kyle nominated Guy Frost. Linh Uong was the pre-selected candidate for Secretary. Guy and Linh were unanimously elected. Jolanta will be the 2013 Chair.

2. Research Working Group: (Chairs: Amy Eklund and Guy Frost, Members: Adam Kubik, Ayaba Logan, Jolanta Radzik, Melissa Roberts, Sofia Slutskaya and Linh Uong)

Amy gave a progress report. The group was initiated last January at Mid-Winter GLA to serve as a vehicle to promote technical services research. Using Google Groups as a means of communication, the group has been working on two projects:

I.   Literature review on the value of technical services departments and trends: This project is in the planning stages due to access to resources (i.e. databases restricted to staff and students) and time constraints (i.e. busy workload). The project members are open to suggestions on how to pursue this, i.e. use volunteers or MLS students who could use the project as a practicum?

II.   Database of technical services research by Georgia librarians, staff and students: This project would allow everyone to share research and promote collaboration. The project members created a survey; Amy handed out copies of the survey and asked for any comments or changes needed. Depending on the response rate, Amy suggested targeting specific groups like professors, students, etc. and asked TSIG members to help promote the survey when it's posted.

Amy asked if any more members were interested in being part of the Research Working Group; Ann McGee and Hyun Kim volunteered. Kyle applauded Amy for all her work this past year.

3. Kyle asked when the TSIG wiki would go live. Tessa Minchew replied, "Soon." Jolanta suggested creating another place to upload PowerPoint presentations, maybe using YouTube or SlideShare.

4. Kyle shared a member's suggestion for TSIG to have a theme/focus to help guide COMO. Linh suggested that the Chair have a focus for the year. Sonya said it was better to promote technical services in general at COMO because there are so few session. Kyle added that it doesn't hurt to send in lots of proposals. Linh said that the poster sessions were another good avenue and Kyle suggested getting a copy of Melanie Dunn's poster, *Buy, not borrow: a bonus for all* (Univ. of Tennessee/Chattanooga) to promote technical services.

General Discussion

1. Amy said we should consider if we're keeping enough statistics on what we do. An example is keeping track of call number changes. Is it normal *not* to do that or is that something we should be doing? Guy mentioned that Valdosta started counting the number of enhanced records; Amy said that she would like to know what kind of enhancing they do, what fields they enhance, etc. Kyle said that there is value in keeping statistics, but at some point it would get overwhelming and you need to ask, would administration understand what the numbers mean? Guy agreed, saying that we haven't found a good mechanism to make turn those statistics into something that's understandable to administration - something that's not tech-speak. Tessa said there has to be a better way to account for all we do. Kyle said that's a good thing to think about and we should continue this discussion at future meetings because technical services departments are getting slashed; Amy added that just raising the profile of technical services is a good thing.

2. Maryska Connolly-Brown introduced and showed her video, *Becoming a library book: a day in technical services*. It had been presented during Poster session 1 at COMO to show the value of technical services. Initially the project was supposed to pull from technical services departments across the state, but there were few responses, so the video focused on the technical services department at Augusta State. Kyle and Maryska said members are welcome to send more footage to be added to the video.

3. Kyle asked members to think about ways to promote ourselves to administration and ways to promote technical services as a whole.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Next Meeting
Mid-Winter GLA, January 11, 2013

Respectfully submitted,

Linh Uong
Secretary