

NASIG Board Conference Call Minutes  
August 11, 2020

**Executive Board:**

Betsy Appleton, President  
Ted Westervelt, Vice President/President-Elect  
Kristen Wilson, Past President  
Beth Ashmore, Secretary

**Members at Large:**

Keondra Bailey  
Katy DiVittorio  
Michael Fernandez  
Mary Ann Jones  
Shannon Keller  
Courtney McAllister

Chris Bulock, Ex Officio  
Angela Dresselhaus, Ex Officio

**Regrets:** Cris Ferguson

**1.0 Welcome**

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 pm Eastern.

**2.0 NASIG Slack space**

Michael Fernandez reached out to the Communications Committee to find a committee member to administer the Slack space. Matt Jabailly volunteered and has been added as an admin and will add members as committees need help setting up channels.

**ACTION ITEM:** Beth Ashmore will add a slide to the committee chair orientation to let committee chairs know that they can add channels to the NASIG Slack space.

**3.0 Planning for 2021 Conference**

3.1 Statement about next year's conference?

Betsy Appleton will draft a statement after this meeting to let the membership know that we are monitoring the prospects for an in-person conference in 2021 including travel restrictions at institutions and being aware that both presenters and attendees will need to have in-person and online options if we move forward with a hybrid conference. The board discussed conducting an

ongoing survey to monitor as members may find out if their institutions will have travel restrictions in May.

**ACTION ITEM:** Katy DiVittorio will work with E&A to set up an ongoing survey about travel restrictions.

### 3.2 Set the 2021 Conference Rate

The board discussed setting the same conference rates as Spokane and Pittsburgh. The board discussed how other conferences have been handling individual and group online registrations as well as including special rates for students and those who have been furloughed. Katy reported that the conference survey showed that a number of people said they were likely to attend another online NASIG conference.

**ACTION ITEM:** Beth will pull together a slate of conference pricing based on the in-person rates for Spokane and other conference's online individual and group pricing so the board can discuss and vote online via email.

### 3.3 Online options for 2021

The board discussed using Zoom again for any online conference components. The Program Planning Committee wants to know what changes they need to make to the speaker MOU and speakers resources to prepare for a hybrid or fully online conference in 2021. Ted Westervelt will ask the program planning committee to suggest some changes that they think should be made. The board discussed how many vision speakers the program planning committee should try to get. The board agreed two vision speakers, an opening and a closing, would be sufficient whether we are entirely online or both online and in-person. We need to make sure that presenters will know that everyone can present online if that is their choice.

### 3.4 2021 Sponsorships

#### 3.4.1 Streaming sponsor package?

The board discussed collecting data on NASIG 2020 attendance and YouTube recording views to share with potential 2021 sponsors, in particular to see if anyone would be willing to be the streaming conference sponsor for the coming year. Kristen Wilson will be working with the Vendor and Publisher Engagement Task Force this year to look at the existing sponsor options.

## 4.0 E&I Activities for 2020-21

4.1 Joining ALA Ethnic Caucuses. An opportunity to reach potential new members, conference presenters, and future leadership.

Katy DiVittorio provided information on what it would cost for NASIG to become institutional members of the following ALA caucuses:

- \$100 REFORMA <http://www.reforma.org/join>

- \$60 Black Caucus of the ALA (BCALA)

<http://www.memberize.com/clubportal/ClubStatic.cfm?clubID=2381&pubmenuoptID=25322>

- \$40 American Indian Library Association (AILA) <http://ailanet.org>

- \$70 Asian Pacific American Librarians Association (APALA)

<https://www.apalaweb.org/join-or-renew/>

- \$100 Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA)

<https://www.cala-web.org/membership>

Among the member benefits are the ability to post our job announcements to all 5 organizations, member rate for conference registration (for the institution's primary contact), subscription to listservs of all five caucuses. Access to online membership directories of each caucus, access to e-newsletters and reports published by each caucus, and the institution can legitimately claim that it supports diversity/inclusion efforts in the library profession, and can publicize this in internal and external communications. One major decision that needs to be made: when the new membership is instituted, one individual needs to be listed/named as the official contact for each of the caucuses, who becomes the listserv subscriber. This could be the same person for all 5, but it's probably best to spread the wealth because collectively that's a lot of listserv traffic. One of the 5 (REFORMA) provides membership in a local chapter and the national association for one membership fee. It's not mandatory that the institutional member be a member of the local chapter. Being members of the caucuses could help us to diversify our membership and reach new audiences who would be interested in our publications, webinars and committees.

**VOTE:** Ted Westervelt moved to approve NASIG's membership in the five ALA caucuses. Mary Ann Jones seconded the motion. 10 votes in favor. 0 votes against. 0 abstentions.

The board discussed if members on the Communications or Equity & Inclusion committees should be the NASIG contact for each of the caucuses. Katy will ask Equity & Inclusion to be the initial contact for the caucuses and then once we are set up we can work out who is best to be the contact.

## **5.0 2021 Conference Proceedings**

For publishing this year's proceedings, there appear to be three options: publish with Insights, negotiate one more year with Taylor & Francis or see if we can set up an online proceedings at an institution's OJS instance. We have not established the necessary funding sources for supporting the move to Insights yet. Staying with Taylor & Francis would be financially viable but it would not help us with attracting speakers who will only speak if they are able to publish open access or with our broader open access goals. Setting up OJS proceedings would require more time and volunteer effort than we may have available. The board discussed potentially negotiating with Taylor and Francis to get more open access articles by paying some APCs out of our honorarium funds and/or a shorter embargo period so we can make some progress toward

our open access goals. While the pandemic and the possibility of having to pay a penalty to the conference hotel in 2021 has put our finances in question, even without the pandemic, we have not been able to reach our open access fundraising goals to support the move to Insights so getting one more year with Taylor and Francis is unlikely to change our situation too much. Program Planning also needs to know how many articles we intend to publish in order to work with speakers and, if we stay with Taylor & Francis, for another year, even if we publish more articles open access, we will still need to meet our page counts for non-open access articles.

**ACTION ITEM:** Betsy will reach out to Taylor & Francis to see if we can negotiate one more year with a shorter embargo period and the ability to pay APCs from our honorarium funds should we want to for some speakers.

The board discussed asking the Open Initiatives Committee to look into our OA options including OJS and what it would require financially and in volunteer labor to pursue each of those options.

## **6.0 2020 Conference Evaluation Report**

Katy reported that we had very positive feedback on the 2020 conference evaluation and asked the board members to contact her with any questions about the report.

**ACTION ITEM:** Beth will ask Cris Ferguson and the Membership Services Committee if they have seen an increase in membership since the conference.

**ACTION ITEM:** Betsy will collect conference registrants who said yes to getting more information about NASIG so we can reach out to them with information about becoming members.

## **7.0 Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm Eastern. Minutes submitted by: Beth Ashmore, Secretary, NASIG Executive Board.