



2018 NISO Calendar of Educational Events

January

January 10 - Webinar -- Annotation – Practices and Tools in a Digital Environment

Annotation tools can be of tremendous value to students and to scholars. Such support for collaboration can add tremendous value to the information that's being accessed by those user populations. What is the current state of the art? This event will bring together input from content and platform providers as well as those who are actively seeking to use those tools, whether in the library or the classroom.

February

February 7 - Webinar The Evolving Natures of Reference Work and Reference Product

In an age where rapid reference inquiries may be handled through a mobile phone and a search engine, reference work in the library must change and expand. How is that unfolding? What are the new expectations of the information products once referred to as major reference works – those comprehensive or subject-specific encyclopedias and indexes that served library professional and patron? How are librarians combining free and subscription resources? This webinar will examine a variety of approaches to enhanced service.

February 14 - Virtual Conference: The Preprint: Integrating the Form into the Scholarly Ecosystem

According to Wikipedia, the preprint is a “version of a scholarly or scientific paper that precedes publication in a peer-reviewed scholarly or scientific journal”. Preprint archives, such as arXiv and SSRN, rapidly achieved prominence in both the hard and social sciences as rapid access to new work became a priority. It's wonderful to have those platforms, but what are best practices for libraries and other content providers in working with them? Should preprints be assigned DOIs? What relationship should exist between pre-prints and discovery services? What is the interoperability with link resolvers like? What are the implications for citation practices?

Includes Training Thursday

March

March 7 and 14 - Two Part Webinar: Using Analytics to Extract Value from the *Library's* Data March 7, Part One: Analytics Behind the Scenes

Faced with a highly diverse combination of externally and internally collected data (web visits, gate counter, collection usage, subject analysis, budgets, space use, reference help interactions, etc.), academic libraries have rapidly mastered the value and use of analytics. Whether analyzing prospective subscription packages to determine their value for an institution's research activities or reviewing usage data drawn from the local digital repository, libraries

want to extract meaning from the increasing volume of *library* data. What does that data look like? How should that data be managed? And in what combinations is that data most enlightening?

March 14, Part Two: Actionable Data Analysis.

We have the data and the report. Looking beyond the simple statistical report (*how many individuals attended a program or searched a database*), what might be best practices in using that data in support of long-term planning and decision making? What types of trends do libraries believe they might be seeing? Wrestling with library data should yield significant insights about the institution's needs. Libraries and those who serve them will benefit from understanding how data is being wrangled, mixed, and interpreted.

April

April 11 – Webinar Can There Be Neutrality in Cataloging? A Conversation Starter

How does one create awareness of the bias that may be introduced into automated systems? This session will look at the selection of vocabulary in establishing taxonomies and ontologies. What is the real nature of the issue? How might establishing, maintenance, and use of a thesaurus contribute to a more inclusive search/discovery process? And where should responsibility lie for developing such ostensibly neutral tools? How can we bring more diverse voices into the development/maintenance of these resources?

April 18 -- Virtual Conference

Information Freedom, Ethics and Longevity

There are the capabilities that technology enables. There are the fair and appropriate activities that a society agrees upon for the use of that technology. How best to strike the correct balance between the two? For the various stakeholders active in the information community, this is neither a frivolous nor a simple question. This virtual conference will touch upon such concerns as net neutrality, information security and the potential for manipulation in the digital environment.

Includes Training Thursday

May

May 9, Webinar Trends in Technology: Smart Services in the Academic Library

When content and platform providers dream of offering smart services to their clients, what do they envision as their value-added offering? Provisioning text and data mining services? Support for the Internet of Things or for Big Data? This session will bring together publishing technologists to spotlight what they see as emerging trends and the rationale for development. Of course, from the customer's point of view, the issue is whether such smart services are truly in demand from the user population. This webinar is intended to bring together the various stakeholders to look at emerging technologies serving diverse research communities.

June

June 6 -- Webinar Innovative Tools and Apps: What's Hot

Are there any interesting new tools and/or apps emerging that are revolutionizing the work being done by scholars, researchers and students? This event will bring together a variety of information community professionals to talk about the tool or app that they know to be indispensable either to themselves or to their community. What does it do? Why is it important? What else do you wish it did? And what does it portend for the future?

June 13 - Virtual Conference: Open Data Projects

Projects that are built on top of multiple open data sets are beginning to be more visible to the mainstream public. This virtual conference will serve as an expansive tour of a variety of open data projects from academia, local government, and other sectors. Looking for inspiration, useful examples or just an opportunity of learning what's possible? This virtual event will spotlight novel approaches as well as practical activities.

July (None)

August

August 8 -- Webinar Discovery: Where Researchers Start

If the discovery resources available via the library don't necessarily serve as the faculty's starting line for launching cutting edge research, then what's the next step? Published in early 2017, Ithaka's US Library Survey of roughly 1500 institutional libraries indicated a diminishing expectation that the institutional library will be the starting point for researchers. What does that suggest for content providers and for library professionals? How does a library know that faculty are using something else? How can libraries draw upon that knowledge of researcher preferences to improve their own services?

August 15 - Virtual Conference:

The Computer Campus: Integrating Information Systems and Services

Super computing is used by scientists and engineers working on complex research problems. Such investigations may involve data-intensive applications that consume enormous amounts of band-width and computing power. Instruction on-campus is increasingly tied to learning management systems which require seamless integration with information resources found in libraries. Libraries are screaming their numerous concerns associated with digital asset and access management. Where is the institutional IT department and just how far can its resources be stretched? This virtual event will look at system demands found on campus and offer examples of how innovative research institutions (and most particularly, their libraries) are meeting the challenges of talent-sourcing, integration and support.

Includes Training Thursday

September Two Part Webinar

September 12, Part One -- Library as Publisher: Current Status and Impact on Scholarly Communication

There's an increasing number of university libraries that have assumed responsibility for the scholarly communication activities and university presses. This event will bring together professionals from a variety of institutions, asking them to address what the challenges have been for them, name their successes, and articulate their vision for the future.

September 19, Part Two -- Library as Publisher: UX and UI for the Library's Digital Collections

Just how good (or how bad) are the Web-based interfaces encountered by library users these days? Having invested in the creation of significant digital collections, how best can libraries enhance usage of those collections? How do scholars and students (especially those working remotely) expect to engage with this content online? What should the interfaces be designed to support? Is there a baseline? What room exists for innovation in the user experience (UX) and user interface (UI)?

October

Two Part Webinar

October 10, Part One -- Library Funding and Successful Advocacy

This event will look at messaging, media platform, policymaking, agency and tension involved in librarians-as-advocates, social media and effective practices of navigating participatory networks.

October 17, Part Two -- Strategic Approaches to Funding Scholarly Initiatives

Aside from funding libraries themselves, there are many innovative projects that might never be accomplished without the support of grants from foundations of various sizes and sorts. What are the current trends? The speakers in this event will identify and examine those trends and share what their impact on the academic environment might be.

October 24 -- Virtual Conference: That Cutting Edge: Technology's Impact on Scholarly Research Processes in the Library

Recent years have introduced a variety of new technologies into the mainstream – artificial intelligence, data science, virtual and augmented reality. As the research community increasingly uses these tools and techniques to generate new findings, what are the needs of the library in supporting both the research activity as well as the resulting output? This virtual conference will explore technologies supported by the modern research library and the impact on both workflow and workforce.

November

November 14 -- Webinar Building Diversity in the Workforce

This event will look at bias awareness and the difficulties of appropriately valuing diversity in a work environment. What are the implications for the library in terms of data collection, recruitment practices and mentoring? How might library leadership encourage applicants from

a broad spectrum of cultural backgrounds while avoiding any appearance of double standards? How might technology jobs in the library be made more appealing to applicants?

December

December 5 - Webinar Maker Spaces: Things that Go Bop, Whizz, and Clank!

Have 3D printers become commonplace? Is someone in your library using pizza boxes to create their next-generation VR viewer? Perhaps you're wondering just how sophisticated (and how spacious) a Maker Space needs to be these days. What are the expectations from students and faculty? What tools and services need to be part of a library's maker space?

December 12 - Virtual Conference The Library of the Future: Inside & Out

As libraries re-evaluate and redesign the services offered to their communities, the ripples of change can be felt across the institution. New job titles and functions appear in university employment postings – clinical information specialist, data scientist, assessment librarian. Space previously given over to stacks is re-allocated. Information resources and tools re-shape the library's budget. Whether the process is visible or invisible to the library patron, the functions of the library are being re-engineered at a core level. What are the implications for library directors? Or for content and platform providers?

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If you have specific questions regarding the scope of a particular session, please contact our Educational Programs Manager, Jill O'Neill, at joneill@niso.org.

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