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**NASIG At Large Position Statement**

I joined NAISG in 2017 after moving across the country and into a new role as an electronic resources librarian. I was looking for a new professional home and community, and I found it in NASIG, which has been critical to my career since. During my years on the Communications and Mentorship & Student Outreach Committees, I have had the privilege of working with and learning from many talented librarians and information professionals. Attending the annual NASIG conference every year has given me the opportunity to grow professionally and meet with old friends. Serving as a mentor in the NASIG mentoring program for the last six years has similarly allowed me to connect with and learn from the next generation of librarians.

I believe fostering the NASIG community and building connections between members should be a priority of NASIG, and I would use my time on the board to make contributions in this area. I think it’s important for members to feel a sense of belonging in the organization, both at conferences and between them. I hope that NASIG can help create and foster communities of practice that will enrich the professional lives of members year-round.

Fostering a sense of inclusive belonging is also key to retaining and growing NASIG’s membership, which is imperative to NASIG’s sustainability. Since the pandemic, institutions and individuals have been hard hit. Travel funds do not go as far as they used to, and many universities have cut what funds they traditionally provided. NASIG needs to give its members reasons to prioritize its conference, and it must ensure that its conferences are both affordable and profitable in our current landscape.

NASIG’s sustainability also requires it to respect the limited time and energy of its volunteers. As I have progressed in my career, I have found that service needs are bottomless, and I need to prioritize requests for my time carefully. Service to NASIG needs to feel vital and rewarding, never perfunctory or needlessly time consuming. As an all-volunteer organization, NASIG also needs to avoid overtaxing and burning out its most dedicated supporters.

This is a difficult time for professional organizations, but I believe that the future for NASIG is bright. As an at large board member, I hope to do my part to guarantee NASIG’s long term relevance and success.