Nancy Bennet

Position Statement

I have been a member of NASIG since 2010, when I started my journey as a librarian. Things

change so rapidly that it feels like it has been a lifetime, yet I am constantly learning so many

new things from my NASIG colleagues that it also feels like I only joined yesterday. Though I

was quick to join, I was slow to become involved, but in 2017 I finally decided it was time I gave

back to the organization that has given so much to me. First as a member of the Membership

Services Committee, then as CPC co-chair (year 1) and CPC-member (year 2), and most recently

as a Mentor in the Mentoring Program, I continue to learn so much from my colleagues while I

provide a valuable service to this all-volunteer organization.

NASIG is a vibrant community, but it is also a shrinking community. I like the smallness of the

conferences because this 100% introvert doesn’t feel so overwhelmed, but becoming too small

also means less fabulous sessions, less people to help make it a success, and less ability to even

hold an annual conference. I feel that being a Member-at-Large will allow me to help make a

difference in growing our community, both in size as well as diversity. Creating the Land

Acknowledgement statements for both the 2021 and 2022 conferences really reminded that as a

white, cis-gender, hetero-sexual female, I am the norm in both the industry and our organization

– and being the norm means it is my responsibility to welcome others who may not have a

presence. NASIG continually strives to be an inclusive organization, and I want to support this

endeavor. By no means do I have an answer on how to grow or diversify, but new voices bring

fresh ideas and ideally fresh ideas will bring success. I only fail if I don’t at least try.