Madeline Kelly

NASIG is a special organization: large enough to accomplish great things; focused and tight knit enough to enable a real sense of community; and made up of members from all sectors of librarianship, scholarly publishing, and information science. Since 2017, NASIG has been my professional association of choice as I have grown my career in technical services, collection management, and leadership. In reflecting on NASIG’s strategic plan and the NASIG Member Forum, I see that I share many of the same aspirations for our organization and profession that you do, and that my priorities and hopes for NASIG align with our strategic directions for 2022-2027.

To thrive as a community, we must continue to refine our conference, professional development, and networking options so that they work for our members and the organization (Strategic Directions 2, 4). We must continue to explore ways to increase impact and connection, including potential opportunities for regional and role- or interest-specific networking among members. The past few years have taught us that so much is possible when it comes to reaching out and connecting with people; we must keep applying the lessons we have learned.

We must also engage in concrete work to dismantle structures of inequity (Strategic Direction 1). This work should include ongoing internally focused efforts to examine and transform NASIG’s own practices and assumptions, as well as meaningful support for members attempting the same within their own organizations and collections. This is complex and challenging work, and the more we can come together and incorporate diverse perspectives, the more likely we are to manifest change.

Finally, we must continue to explore innovative approaches to information organization and dissemination, including the future of Open Access, transformative agreements, and information-sharing standards (Strategic Direction 3). We are a rich community of library professionals, publishers, and scholarly communications experts, ideally positioned to push forward in new and exciting ways. As Secretary, I would bring more than a decade of experience in technical services, collections, and leadership to the NASIG Executive Board. I have a deep commitment to accessibility, diversity, equity, and inclusion (ADEI), with a track record of implementing action oriented ADEI initiatives in my work, as well as challenging myself to grow on an ongoing basis. I believe strongly that our work is—and should be—an expression of our values and I seek ways for my professional contributions to bolster equity and inclusion. My leadership strategies include

listening, working towards consensus, and practicing empathy. I embrace change, trying whenever I can to pursue opportunities for learning and growth.

As a former chair of the Nominations & Elections Committee, I have had the opportunity to work with past nominees for NASIG office and understand the deep power of an organization steered by volunteers. Our commitment and our passion are critical to what we do, and I would be honored to serve as a member of NASIG’s Executive Board for the next three years.

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