Call for Volunteers
Kristen Wilson, NASIG Vice President/President-Elect

Whether you’re new to NASIG or a seasoned veteran, I’d like to ask you to consider serving on a NASIG committee in 2019/2020. NASIG is an all-volunteer organization, and we couldn’t do all that we do without help from our membership. The breadth of NASIG’s scope means that there’s a committee out there to suit everyone, whatever your interests and skills.

If you like to be part of the action, consider volunteering for the Conference Planning or Program Planning Committees. These two groups are in the thick of conference activities, deciding on themes and logos, planning events, and identifying exciting speakers. Of course, we also need people in these groups who can keep us on schedule and juggle the details, if that’s more your style. The Awards and Recognition Committee is another great way to get involved with the conference, while also giving you the opportunity to honor your peers for their work.

NASIG committees can also give you a chance to make a difference in the library field. Our brand new Diversity Committee will be working on ways to help NASIG represent a wide variety of people, offer scholarships, and provide educational opportunities to our members. Student Outreach and Mentoring—which will be merging in 2019—also allow you to give back by helping people who are new to the profession or looking to grow their skills.

And there are many other ways NASIG committees serve our members all year long. As a part of the Standards Committee, you’ll get to have a voice in developing some of the practices that will shape the field in the coming years. Or try Continuing Education, the group that helps share updates about big issues, new technologies, and critical skills through webinars and documents like the NASIG Core Competencies.

Finally, don’t be fooled by the unassuming nature of groups like Bylaws, Communications, Nominations and Elections, Evaluation and Assessment, and Membership Services. These core committees are the ones who keep NASIG up and running. They welcome and aid our membership, make sure we have a strong board, support decision making, and share NASIG’s work with the wider world. If you’re the type of person who likes to know your contribution is fundamental, we need you here.

In addition to helping support NASIG and the library profession as a whole, NASIG committees can also be personally rewarding. They’re a great way to meet professional service requirements, but the benefits go way beyond that. If you’d like to broaden your professional network, a committee is a great way to meet people from across North America. And if you’re new to the library field, NASIG can help you build a support network of peers, some of whom may turn out to be friends.

If any of this strikes your fancy, please consider volunteering on the NASIG Volunteer Form. Or reach out to me directly at kristen [at] indexdata [dot] com, and I’ll be happy to answer questions and help you find your committee home.