



## President's Corner

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Kristen Wilson

Welcome to December! It's hard to believe it's already been six months since the 2019 NASIG Conference. As president, I'm realizing just how quickly the year slips by. While it's easy to worry about all the things that haven't gotten done, the halfway mark is also a chance to reflect on what we have been able to accomplish as an organization.

As a direct result of this summer's Members Forum, we put forward a successful vote to add a tiered structure to NASIG membership dues. The new structure will keep dues at a lower rate for those NASIG members who make less than \$50,000 a year. To me, this measure has been the perfect way to add some balance to the dues increase that will take effect on January 1. The push to offer a tiered membership speaks to NASIG members' commitment to fairness and equity in the organization. It's also a great example of the way that members can share their opinions during the annual conference and see those ideas become reality.

We've also seen excellent progress on plans for the 2020 conference in Spokane, Washington. This year's Conference Planning and Program Planning Committees are exceptionally strong and dedicated groups, and I couldn't be more pleased with their work. CPC recently unveiled a very cool logo for the conference that features Spokane landmarks and vintage colors. The logo generated a lot of excitement among the board, and we're hoping we can get it printed on some swag for everyone who attends.

Meanwhile, PPC has been doing their part by lining up a strong conference program. They recently announced the vision speakers for 2020, Janetta Waterhouse and Amelia Gibson. I'm really looking forward to what we can learn from these two women, whose respective areas of expertise are management practices for technical services and the interplay between communities and information systems. CPC is also working on another town hall session for this year, focused on how we can foster Open Access initiatives. These are all topics of vital importance to our profession, and I hope that they will draw a good crowd to Spokane.

Finally, the board has been hard at work on several other areas of NASIG leadership. We did not hold an in-person board meeting in Spokane this fall because of costs and travel time involved. Instead we are holding a "deconstructed board meeting," a series of targeted calls to discuss topics of strategic importance. So far on the slate we have scheduled meetings to talk about: the upcoming conference, the transition to open access for the conference proceedings, migration to our new website and association management platform, ways to better format and distribute NASIG news, and the formation of a budget working group to address financial planning needs. I will share some of the details of these meetings in my next column.

Until then, I'll be trying to balance all these priorities with another very important goal—to relax and enjoy the upcoming holidays with family and friends. I hope all of you have a chance to do the same and that you have a very happy new year!