Candidate's statement: Karen Zimbelman

Ownership by co-op members brings a powerful difference to our businesses and to our markets. This difference needs to continually be leveraged by co-ops to serve as a key competitive advantage.

NCBA CLUSA is in a unique position to support co-ops using their ownership model and democratic structure for differentiation. NCBA CLUSA also gives us a common ground for learning and sharing and to bring us together as a movement for increased benefit and positive impact to the lives of our co-op members. The national and global reach of NCBA CLUSA provide U.S. co-ops with an important forum for building and strengthening our common bonds.

Food co-ops and NCGA are committed to a vision of a strong, dynamic co-op system. I look forward to bringing my passion for co-ops, as well as my vision for the impact co-ops can have to the NCBA CLUSA board.