

Candidate Statement: Michelle Schry

I bring a deep, personal commitment to the work of cooperatives and a dogged determination to bring greater appreciation and understanding of how cooperatives can change circumstances and build an inclusive economy for people both domestically and internationally. I can also bring a link to some of the most active cooperative members in the U.S.—food co-op members. Food co-ops represent 1.3 million member-owners, and whenever NCBA CLUSA has put out a call for assistance, food co-ops and their members have answered—writing letters, calling legislators and donating money.

I've had the great honor of serving on NCBA CLUSA's Board of Directors for several years. NCBA CLUSA is an organization whose life has spanned generations from its inception in 1916. Today, there is a new generation of cooperators who are stepping forward to learn from those who have led the way and to teach some of us old dogs some new tricks.

NCBA CLUSA is a crucial connection between co-op sectors, co-ops old and new, and cooperators old and new. No other organization has the potential to make more impact than one that brings cooperators together to work in pursuit of their common interests. I can bring pragmatism, vision and organizational development skills to serve in that interest. I believe that every organization must constantly evolve to meet the changing needs of those it serves. I am committed and inspired to assist in shepherding NCBA CLUSA through that evolution. Go Co-op!