**Candidate Statement - Jeanne D. Matson**

I am running for a 2nd term on the NCBA CLUSA Board of Directors.  During my 1st term, I have learned both the strategic priorities of the organization and I have become more knowledgeable of the NCBA CLUSA structure and mission.  As a member of the Purchasing sector, I offer a unique perspective to the Board pertaining to the business model and strategy of purchasing cooperatives and how they are different from more traditional cooperatives.

During my Board service, I have consistently attended both the live and virtual Board Meetings.  I have served on the Governance Committee throughout my tenure and I enjoy working with a smaller group on specific NCBA CLUSA issues.  I believe I have developed a good relationship with other Board members as well as the NCBA CLUSA staff and those connections are valuable for future project work.

While making the decision to run for a 2nd term, I reflected on those areas of NCBA CLUSA Board service which I most enjoy and where my experience as both a corporate and cooperative business leader serves me most effectively.

As a result, If I am re-elected to the Board, I plan to work with the NCBA CLUSA staff to grow the overall membership of the organization.  Excellent work is underway already in this area and solid data has been collected to support a new growth plan.  I will support the current work and help specifically with the Purchasing sector since I have many connections within that group.  My goal is to return the Purchasing sector to its previous strength in numbers while increasing the commitment of that group to NCBA CLUSA.  For those individuals who run Purchasing Cooperatives, the information and best practices shared at past IMPACT conferences was outstanding.  To maintain this critical exchange, we must attract former and future Purchasing Cooperatives to NCBA CLUSA.

In addition, my second goal for Board service is to strengthen my understanding of the incredible work being done by NCBA CLUSA outside of North America.  For the organization, this work drives the revenues and staff members who oversee both the projects, and the financial reporting are very talented.  It is a complicated area and I plan to dedicate more time to studying the information.  If possible, once travel becomes available, I would enjoy self-funding a visit to a project site.  I know other Board members have taken advantage of these opportunities and the experience was valuable to them.