From the Chair

Who Do We Think We Are?

Stephen Woods

Who do you think you are? Maybe someone has asked you this question before or you have the type of personality where you continually ask yourself this question. It's a question that any

honest leader faces when taking over the reigns of an organization with a long and storied tradition like GODORT. However, I think the question taken at face value is an excellent place to start our conversation.

So, who am I? I will confess that when I started out as a government documents librarian in 1995, I felt like a counterfeit. I had no academic training in government information, only practical experience working in the University of Iowa's Government Documents Department. However, I was a vora-

the lines of a common vision. e KU Work Group states thatinspire government information specialists to develop services "Your vision is your dream. It's what your organization beliefcesgovernment information." It took approximately ten minare the ideal conditions for your community; that is, how thingtes for someone to suggest a revision by simply adding the would look if the issue important to you were completely, powords "and collections" after services. at's the whole point of fectly addressed." the exercise. Mission statements are one of those things that w

Our community will and must have some conversatioas a community need consensus on. Once we get that right, we along the lines that I have alluded to in this column. Shari Laster answer with con dence the question: "Who do we think has just sent out a reminder with the agenda for the Rarev&are?"

Endangered Government Publication Committee (REGP) vir-

tual meeting in July. It includes a discussion of goals for Reference

REGP identi ed in our organization Policy and Procedures 1. KU Work Group for Community Health and Develop-Manual (PPM). at's a fantastic start. However, how do we capture those activities that are a priority for our community that are not re ected in our legacy documents?

I'll close with this. At the nal steering meeting in San Francisco as the baton was passed forward, I read the rst draft en/table-of-contents/structure/strategic-planning/ of a mission statement, is was it: "GODORT's mission is to

ment, Chapter 8, Section 2: Proclaiming Your Dream: Developing Vision and Mission Statements (Lawrence, KS: University of Kansas, 2014). Retrieved January 2, 2014, from the Community Tool Box: http://ctb.ku.edu/ vision-mission-statements/main.