

# From the Chair

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**B**y the time this column is published, I will be at or near the end of my term as Chair! Often, endings are a time for reflection and I've been looking back over the past year *and* over the nearly thirty years that GODORT has been my professional home.

Throughout those thirty years our community has consistently advocated for government information as a public good and we have endeavored to ensure citizens have permanent and free public access. Our message has been the same: *Government information that works for libraries, the preservation of documents are as much or more of a problem in the electronic world as they were in a print world. Preservation of collections, both print and electronic, is a pressing issue yet to be resolved.*

There is more to do than ever before, yet there is little doubt our ranks are shrinking. In 1989 GODORT had 1,132 personal members, at the start of 2015 that number had dropped by half to 588. Why has there been such a huge drop? I suspect it is because far fewer libraries are hiring a dedicated government