

## Questionnaire for Board Candidates

### 2011 Candidate Questions

- **Name:**

*Duane Wessels*

- **Provide a brief biography of recent experience, associations, and affiliations relevant to serving on the NANOG Board of Directors. Please be as specific as possible:**

*I've been attending and presenting at NANOG meetings for the past 15 years or so. Two years ago I was (narrowly) elected to the Steering Committee and am proud to have helped NANOG through its most recent transition. I currently work for VeriSign where I get to do research and data analysis on DNS traffic. Previous employers include DNS-OARC, The Measurement Factory, and UCSD.*

- **Describe the relevance of your technical and professional experience to serve on the Board of Directors:**

*My primary qualification is being a frequent meeting participant and contributor. In years past I had some behind-the-scenes involvement as a volunteer who helped setup and operate the meeting network. I also have some prior experience with a similar, but smaller, membership-based non-profit organization, DNS-OARC.*

- **What Internet-related services do you or your current employer or organization provide:**

*VeriSign operates DNS name servers for the root, com, net, and other zones. Sometimes I get to look at the data.*

- **Are there any conflicts real or perceived that might arise should you be elected as a NANOG Board Member:**

*No.*

- **Describe any concerns or limitations on your ability to participate or travel to attend Board Meetings and NANOG Meetings in person or to serve the entirety of a 2-year term:**

*None that I am aware of. My employer fully supports my involvement in NANOG and my current role on the Board.*

- **What differentiates you as a candidate, or makes you uniquely suited to serve on the NANOG Board of Directors:**

*I have a background in research and education, rather than operations. I'm terse.*

- **Why do you want to serve on the NANOG Board:**

*With the transition to a stand-alone non-profit only recently completed, and with some existing board members departing, I feel it is important to have some continuity.*

- **What do you want to accomplish during your tenure on the board? And, describe how you expect to accomplish that goal:**

*I want to ensure that NANOG remains a vibrant, neutral, trustworthy place to go for up-to-date information on networking operations and research. I'd also like to see NANOG expand its offerings and embrace or cooperate with other networking communities. I'd argue that NANOG needs to proceed cautiously with its new sponsorship models and not be afraid to work with other, similar groups.*

- **Describe the level of relevance NANOG has to its membership, and the larger community:**

*Obviously NANOG's relevance is high. There is no other venue like it at this time, and it should stay that way.*

- **What are NANOG's greatest achievements in the last year:**

*Becoming an independent non-profit corporation is the biggie. The success of the NOGLab is another significant achievement.*

- **What are NANOG's three greatest challenges and how do you see the Board addressing them:**

1. Some have suggested switching to a twice-per-year meeting schedule. I feel such a change would have a negative impact. It is the community's choice to make, but the Board must provide honest input, such as how it would affect finances, attendance, and the program.
2. With an increasing amount of money coming from sponsorships, certain issues are likely to arise. The board must develop policies in anticipation of such issues.
3. I believe the membership model (i.e., benefits of) may need to be enhanced to make NANOG membership more compelling to participants. The board and community need to find the right balance that makes people want to become members of NANOG.