

Questionnaire for Board Candidates

2011 Candidate Questions

- **Name:**

Sylvie LaPerrière

- **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:**

- *2010-2011 Vice-Chair, NANOG Board of Directors*
- *2011 with Steve Feldman, negotiated the smooth transition with Merit*
- *2010 Secretary, NANOG Board of Directors*
- *2009-2011 NANOG Steering Committee Member (Program Committee Liaison)*
- *2007-2009 NANOG Program Committee Member*
- *2007-2008 NANOG Marketing Committee*
- *2007 Co-Host of NANOG39*
- *Started attending at NANOG 30. Attended 22*

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

I am a business school graduate in Marketing and Information Technology and became market analyst for the financial industry and then the telecom industry.

My global networking career started in 1994 as the product manager launching a commercial global backbone Internet service. Attracted by this new economy, I joined Internet multimedia startups for news on demand, web training and TV and internet service over MMDS where I gained valuable telecom and regulatory policy exposure. Product developer for a mobile network operator, I became familiar with wireless networking challenges and consumer traffic behaviours.

After the bubble burst, I joined the ranks of the backbone Internet networking community with the task to redress the network I had launched almost a decade ago. I created and executed a niched global expansion strategy to reach the then-underserved markets of Africa, Middle East, South East Asia, with the first non-stop around the world routing and with the judicious use of own and operated subsea and satellite systems.

In 2007, I became intrigued by the efficient use of Content Distribution Networks to deliver video files. Attending NOGs around the globe for the past 8 years, I am a leader, influencer and shepherd in the global peering community. I care deeply about the Internet. The spirit of cooperation and collegiality amongst network operators is the reason I am drawn to this community. It has provided me with friendships, technical advice, help, assistance, insights in my career. Serving on NANOG committees and now seeking a second mandate as a Director is my small tribute.

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

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and make it universally accessible and useful. I am on the side of the house that 'makes it universally accessible' via networking, peering and caching.

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

I trust that I have earned the respect of the attendees and have demonstrated abilities to be a consensus builder and a leader who gets things done.

- **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:**

N/A

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

- *Outgoing and at ease with interpersonal relationships.*
- *Experienced manager having coached a highly productive and successful team across time zones.*
- *Experienced businessperson with Profit & Loss accountability and proven ability to support decisions with business and financial analyses.*
- *Team player highly motivated by driving and achieving results.*
- *Fluent in English, French (mother tongue), reads Spanish: the three main languages in North America.*

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

I am seeking a second mandate to continue the transformation of NANOG into a thriving independent entity. After the takeoff we need to reach our cruising altitude and complete the transformation into an active membership and a financially sound organization. I have the time, energy and ability to serve another term and respectfully request your support.

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

- *While execution was last tenure's modus operandi, 'Communication' should brand this tenure. Communication starts by listening. I want to hear how members,*

sponsors, attendees, staff can increase NANOG's relevance for the years to come. The outcome will be a 3-year action plan.

- *I will provide the time and support required by our Executive Director and support staff for continued operations.*

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

NANOG mailing lists, archives and conferences is where network operators go for neutral, sound and practical technical knowledge. Professionals and practitioners share clue and insight. They write, debate, collaborate and develop relationships to make the Internet better.

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

This community was put to the test these past 16 months. I have come to know and appreciate exceptional people who rose to the challenge of making NANOG a standalone entity. The collective accomplishments are: independent legal entity, non-profit official status, hiring an Executive director, selecting an association management service firm via RFP, intellectual property right transfer (marks and assets) while maintaining a positive relationship, contracting the next six conference venues, adopting a sustainable sponsorship model, creating a membership, transitioning operational services to new providers with minimal interruptions to users. We promised a seamless transition for NANOG 52 and we delivered.

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

At our strategic retreat last August, the Board summarized its three greatest challenges: sustainability, relevance, member engagement.

- *Sustainability – Ensure financial sustainability and perception as a credible long-term investment*
- *Relevance – Increase the relevance while maintaining the neutrality of NANOG offerings*
- *Member engagement - Increase member sense that NANOG offerings are compelling and worth supporting*