



NANOG-Reform Working Group

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Community Meeting
NANOG33
Las Vegas

Why Reform NANOG?

- Continuing problems with mailing list administration
 - Uneven moderation standards
 - Lack of transparency or reasoned decision making
 - Breakdown in mutual respect and collegiality
- Also issues with NANOG meetings
 - Program committee perceived to be out of touch with general operator community
 - Selection of topics is extremely uneven
 - Perception of powerlessness on the part of NANOG community.

Time to Stop Complaining

- A working group - “NANOG-Reform” has been busy since the last NANOG meeting
 - Genesis after a spontaneous community meeting with Betty Burke of Merit concerning mailing list issues
 - Representatives of various constituencies - former speakers, frequent attendees, previous hosts. Participants work for vendors, operators, researchers and others.
 - **Goal: Come up with a proposal to fix what's wrong so we can move forward**
 - Work Product: www.nanog-reform.org
- The Big Proposal: Turn NANOG into a *membership organization* in partnership with Merit.

The Proposal: Specifics

- *An Elected* Board of Directors/Steering Committee
 - 7 members, staggered two year terms
 - One member elected as Chair - public face of NANOG organization
 - Board responsibilities:
 - Selection of List Moderation and Program Committees
 - Sets policy for mailing list and conferences
 - Responsible for organization goals and direction, working with committees, Merit staff, hosts, sponsors, speakers, and the larger community
 - Budgetary Oversight
 - Who votes for the committee? Anyone who has attended a conference in the last 12 months (#insert membership-criteria)

The Proposal: Specifics

- List Administration Committee
 - Responsible for NANOG mailing list administrative issues
 - Will coordinate use of peer pressure and other techniques to keep the list “on-topic” (liberally defined)
 - Must be technically knowledgeable and have an understanding of all issues that can be discussed on the list.
 - Will implement BoD/SC policies for *rare* imposed moderation actions, which will be performed in a transparent manner.
 - Also FAQ upkeep and maintenance

The Proposal: Specifics

- Program Committee
 - Selected by BoD/SC for *fixed terms*
 - Responsible for conference program and agenda
 - Performs speaker recruitment and selection
 - Coordinate with Merit on venue selection and preparation
- Merit Networks Role
 - Hosting of NANOG web site and mailing list
 - Registration, fee collection, and financial management
 - Coordinate with local hosts for venue selection
 - *Ex-officio* representation on BoD

The Future

- Where do we go from here?
 - Community buy-in - please endorse at www.nanog-reform.org
 - Further work: By-laws and initial elections
 - Cooperation of Merit and partner organizations like ARIN and RIPE
- Undesirable but possible outcomes
 - Merit “taking input from the community” perpetually - no action
 - Continued erosion of NANOG mailing list value
 - Split of community with rival ops conference in association with ARIN (like RIPE)

The Future

Who is responsible for this proposal?

Jan Bacher

Rodney Joffe

Alex Rubenstein

Randy Bush

Simon Lockhart

Joshua Sahala

Steve Gibbard

Chris Malayter

Robert Seastrom

Patrick Gilmore

Ren Provo

Randy Whitney

Daniel Golding

Michel Py

Stephen Wilcox

Mike Hughes

Adam Rothschild

Tim Yocum

The NANOG-Reform Group