



IGF-USA Kickoff Meeting Minutes

Friday, January 22, 2021

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. 2021 Format and Timing
3. [Timeline and Milestones](#)
4. Topic and Panel Selection
 - a. [Call for Topics](#)
 - b. [Results from 2020](#)
5. Interim and Pre-Events
 - a. [Example from 2020](#)
6. Discussion on global IGF
 - a. [IGF 2021 Call for Thematic Inputs](#)
 - b. NRI Activities and Looking Ahead to IGF 2021
7. Financial Update
 - a. Final Report from 2020
 - i. [Fundraising 2018-2020](#)
8. Any other Business

Attendees

- Dustin Loup, Co-Chair of IGF-USA
- Melinda Clem, Co-Chair of IGF-USA
- Michael Nelson, Carnegie Endowment
- Judith Hellerstein, Hellerstein & Associates
- George Sadowksy, ISOC Board
- Courtney Radsch, Committee to Protect Journalists
- Robert Hershey, Independent Engineering and Management Consultant
- James Galvin, Donuts
- Anna Higgins, ISOC
- Naela Sarras, ICANN
- John More, ISOC-DC
- Chanel Adikuono, DC USAID
- Annette Suriani, IGF-USA Event Organizer
- Katie Noyes, FBI

- Kēbē San
- Fiona Alexander, American University
- Twahir Hussein Kassim, ISOC Kenya and IGF Kenya
- Anna Karakhanyan, AMNIC Administrator
- Alicia Gomez, FBI
- Joe Catapano, ICANN
- Parker Kobayashi, Charles Koch Institute
- Paul Eisler, US Telecom
- Jessica Dheere, Ranking Digital Rights
- Marina Polachek, National Grid [US]
- Keith Drazek, Verisign
- Elizabeth Behsudi, Internet and Jurisdiction Policy Network
- Jeff Neuman, JJN Solutions
- Neil KC, American University Graduate Student
- Ann Morton, i2Coalition
- Samuel Speed
- Berry Cobb, Independent Consultant around ICTs
- Nik Smith, Verisign
- Joel Binn
- Susan Mohr, Lumen
- Katie McAuliffe, Americans for Tax Reform
- Rick Lane, Iggy Ventures
- Ann Vroom
- Steve DelBianco, NetChoice
- Jeff Bedser
- Beth Bacon, PIR
- Susan Chalmers, NTIA

Minutes

1. Introductions, meeting overview
2. Format, date, and location of IGF-USA still unknown due to COVID-19 pandemic → question posed to attendees surrounding preferences of virtual vs. in-person event, and how timing should be adjusted accordingly:
 - a. Potential for an outdoor event, looser guidelines
 - b. Decision is difficult to make today, should probably be made around late March/early April when topics are selected
 - c. Opportunity to be less DC-centric, should be at least a virtual component
 - d. Options: In-person (strictly limits attendance), hybrid (difficult because in-person attendees dominate), or virtual (if chosen, should start catering to this format as soon as possible)
 - i. Potential for two separate phases (virtual day and in-person day, or smaller focus groups in-person, rest online)

- e. General consensus against pushing conference later because everyone else adjusting events, so fall will be busy, and summer weather would be best if the in-person part was held outside
 - f. Virtual pre-event promoting IGF-USA attendance
 - g. Further discussion next meeting to hopefully make a decision
3. [Tentative Timeline Overview:](#)
- a. Attendees encouraged to promote and share call for topics
 - b. Select topics from highest scoring ones on the survey → teams established to shape each seminar
 - c. Tentatively planning on a two-day conference with 8-10 topics
4. Discussion of meeting time and dates
- a. Like Fridays because often not a lot of meetings
 - b. Decided on Thursday 3:00-5:00
5. Event Ideas:
- a. Trivia, interactive events, virtual bartending
6. Pre-Events
- a. Last year pre-event with PEW for discussion of issues and research, planning something this year a few weeks before the conference
 - b. Potential for smaller side-events across the country
7. Global IGF looking for IGF-USA's input on three issues they should prioritize
- a. Content moderation, shaping, and accountability on multiple layers
 - b. General lack of understanding of the different layers of the internet
 - c. Greater investigation into new technologies
 - d. Trust in identity (robots, trolls), disinformation, what's real and what's not
 - e. New models of collaboration
 - f. Digital divide
 - g. Use of anonymized internet data for scientific purposes
 - h. User security, company accountability
 - i. Who controls the internet?
 - j. Multistakeholder process
 - k. Section 230 and free speech
 - l. Disinformation
 - m. COVID-19 effects
 - n. Commerce, currency, and social media laws and taxation

- o. Final Topic Themes: Content conduct, shaping, and accountability; connectivity, inclusion, and COVID-19 response and recovery; digital markets, advertisement, currency, media, and taxation
 - i. Focus on emerging technologies within each of these topics
 - ii. Power: who should it belong to, and where should it be exercised?
 - p. Email coming with synthesized topics, feedback welcome
8. Financial Update:
- a. At end of 2019, had \$1,200 left from year before
 - b. Now have \$29,000 (mainly due to the virtual format of last year's conference), with \$100 to \$200 allocated for operation → excellent financial shape
9. Call for Topics
- a. Think about interest level and experts that could be involved in presenting
 - b. Be very specific