INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM USA

IGF-USA 2021 Steering Committee Meeting #3 Minutes

Thursday, March 18, 2021, 3:00 - 4:30 pm EDT

Agenda

1. Introductions
2. [Review of Survey Results](#)
3. Open Discussion of Results
   a. Potential selection of Session Topics
4. NRI Call for Issues
5. Proposed Dates for IGF-USA 2021
   a. First Choice - July 14-15
   b. Alternative - July 20-21
6. AOB

Attendees

- Alicia Gomez, FBI
- Anja Gengo, IGF Secretariat
- Ann Morton, i2Coalition
- Ann Vroom
- Anna Higgins, ISOC
- Beth Bacon, PIR
- Brian Scarpelli
- Courtney Radsch, Committee to Protect Journalists
- Dustin Loup, Co-Chair of IGF-USA
- Eric Botts, University of St. Thomas
- Evan Swarztrauber
- Brett Berlin
- James Galvin, Donuts
- Jeff Bedser, iThreat
- Jessica Dheere, Ranking Digital Rights
- Jim Prendergast
- Joe Catapano, ICANN
- John More, ISOC-DC
- Judith Hellerstein, Hellerstein & Associates
- Katie Jordan, ISOC
- Lori Schulman

- Melinda Clem, Co-Chair of IGF-USA
- Michael Nelson, Carnegie Endowment
- Naela Sarras, ICANN
- Nathalie Coupet
- Paul Eisler, US Telecom
- Rachel Wolbers
- Rick Lane, Iggy Ventures
- Romella El Kharzazi
- Ryan Johnston, Next Century Cities
- Shane Tews
- Sivasubramanian M, WABAG
- Steve DelBianco, NetChoice

1. IGF-USA Conference Date - July 14-15 (first choice) or July 20-21 (alternative)
   a. **Decided officially on having the conference July 14-15**

2. Subject Matter Survey Results:
   a. 108 survey responses (typical amount, even with the longer survey this year)
   b. See linked doc for stakeholder and IGF-USA/Global IGF attendance breakdown, along with a reminder of the survey format
   c. Survey includes a combination of percentages, mean scores, and response count totals, results broken up by subject area based on what 0-10 rating individuals gave that subject area in Section 3 of the survey
   d. Subject Area Rating page comes from Section 3 of the survey
      i. First graph shows mean score of interest for each subject area (cybersecurity had the highest interest, and 5G had the lowest)
      ii. Second graph shows how many people rated each subject area a certain range (1-4, 5-7, and 8-10) → more specific way to break it up, for example, content policy and digital markets and competition had a smaller number of people rate it 8-10, but they had the two most counts of people picking 5-7, revealing a more general interest in these topics which the first graph does not highlight
      iii. These graphs don't necessarily indicate that the less popular subjects will not have sessions, just a way of understanding the survey results
   e. Subject Area Breakdown- rest of the report
      i. Two sections: One on cross-cutting themes from Section 1 of the survey, one on topics from Section 2 of the survey
      ii. Cross cutting themes: 1st graph shows the percentage of total respondents that selected each theme within a subject area (ex:

65.2% of respondents selected Best Practices and Norms as an important theme within the subject of Cybersecurity), 2nd and 3rd graphs show the same information, but only for participants that ranked the subject area 5 or higher (5-10), and then 8 or higher, 4th graph shows the first 3 graphs compiled together

   iii.   Topics: For mean graphs, Not Very Important assigned 1, Important assigned 2, Essential assigned 3, results averaged to determine the mean value (between 1 and 3), response count graphs show how many participants rated each topic as Not Very Important, Important, or Essential. There are both mean score and response count graphs for total responses, responses ranking the subject area 5 or higher, and responses ranking the subject area 8 or higher. The last graph shows the 3 mean score graphs compiled together.

   iv.   Will be more helpful once the topics are selected, can also provide more detailed breakdowns for session teams later

   v.   Report useful in determining how to combine and breakdown topics for sessions, think broadly about the topics and how they work together (middle ranking topics can be incorporated into more popular ones)

  f. Cybersecurity Standouts:

   i.   Cross-Cutting Themes: Best Practices and Norms

   ii.   Topics: Supply Chain Security, Policy and Standards for IOT, Identity and Authentication had the most people rank it as Essential, but also the most people rank it as Not Very Important

   iii.   A lot of the middle of the road responses varied on how people ranked the Cybersecurity subject area → might make sense to fit Roadmap for Cooperation in Digital Security into a larger session on Supply Chain Security or Policy and Standards for IOT, for example

  g. Data Governance and Privacy Standouts:

   i.   Cross-Cutting Themes: Regulation and Enforcement, Intergovernmental Cooperation

   ii.   Topics: Federal and State Legislation, Data Diplomacy and Regulatory Cooperation

  h. Content Policy Standouts:

   i.   Cross-Cutting Themes: Best Practices and Norms, Regulation and Enforcement (although those ranking Content Policy 8 or higher had a preference towards Intergovernmental Cooperation over Regulation and Enforcement)

      ii.   Topics: Role of Government vs. Private Sector in Content Moderation Decisions, also Impact of Markets, Competition, and Notifiers

i. **Global Internet Infrastructure Standouts:**
   i. Cross-Cutting Themes: Technical Standards, Intergovernmental Cooperation (although those ranking Content Policy 8 or higher also liked Emerging Technologies and Disruption)
   ii. Topics: Regulatory Pressures Fragmenting the Internet

j. **5G Standouts:**
   i. Cross-Cutting Themes: Technical Standards, Emerging Technologies and Disruption
   ii. Topics: Supply Chain Management and Security, Standards and Policies for IOT (similar to ones that scored higher in Cybersecurity)

k. **Access and Digital Inclusion Standouts:**
   i. Cross-Cutting Themes: Best Practices and Norms
   ii. Topics: Intersection of Access and Inclusion, Local Solutions - The Role of Government, Libraries, and Community Networks

l. **Artificial Intelligence Standouts:**
   i. Cross-Cutting Themes: Emerging Technologies and Disruption, Best Practices and Norms
   ii. Topics: Role of Government and Regulation, Impact of Data Policy Including Tech Diplomacy and Regulatory Cooperation (Interesting that with these topics, Regulation and Enforcement was not ranked higher under cross-cutting themes), while few considered it Essential, many scored Corporate Responsibility and Fostering Trust in Tech as Important, so it should probably be a part of the broader discussion

m. **Digital Markets and Competition Standouts:**
   i. Cross-Cutting Themes: Regulation and Enforcement, Emerging Technologies and Disruption
   ii. Topics: Reexamining Antitrust in a Digital Economy, Future of Digital Markets and Tech Businesses (Tax Policy scored towards the bottom, however many ranked it as Important, so it should probably be a part of the broader discussion

n. **Trust Standouts:**
   i. Cross-Cutting Themes: Best Practices and Norms, Intergovernmental Cooperation
   ii. Topics: Role of Digital Identity in a Secure, Trusted, and Inclusive Internet, Elections - Security, Integrity, and Trust

3. Discussion of Topics:
    a. Cybersecurity:
        i. Likely two sessions because of its high scoring on the survey, maybe even three
        ii. Potential for two sessions: Application of Norms and Best Practices across the top scoring topics (potential for incorporating 5G), Regulation of Critical Infrastructure, 5G, Security/Audits, or Incident Management (get specific with topics and definitions), could also incorporate Trust, Communication, and Safety (who is doing what)
        iii. Need new approaches to/discussions of Cybersecurity at IGF-USA → Trust, data policy, privacy all focus on the evolution of the internet going forward (trust is a fundamental throughout)
        iv. Actual examples: Solar Winds and Microsoft Exchange - quality failure in cybersecurity can drive Norms and Best Practices and Regulation going forward (identify problems and work to fix them)
        v. Ethical side - business of disinformation, election security, also ties in with the quality failure discussion, good launching point into other discussions
        vi. Need to define Critical Infrastructure specifically (for example, Best Practices in IOT devices and control systems)
    b. General suggestion to consult with people who provided/ranked these topics highly in the two surveys for more concrete detail → make general topic decisions amongst the Steering Committee first, then consult people that suggested those topics
    c. Trust is an overarching topic, need to look at specific applications/themes
    d. Key Topics Throughout the Survey: Supply Chain Security, Policy Standards for IoT, Federal and State Legislation, Data Diplomacy and Regulatory Cooperation, Role of government v private sector in content moderation decisions, Regulatory Pressures Fragmenting the Internet, Reexamining antitrust in a digital economy, Future of Digital Markets and Tech Businesses, Intersection of access and digital inclusion
        i. Can combine when relevant
    e. Access and Digital Inclusion
        i. Covid, federal policy, big infrastructure package, broadband, ARP allocations, internet plan flexibility
    f. Concurrent Sessions
        i. Haven't decided on whether or not to do concurrent sessions
        ii. If happening, should be structured so that overlapping sessions wouldn't be interesting to the same people

      iii.   Concurrent sessions would offer the opportunity to focus on subject areas that didn't score as high overall, but had a small group that was highly interested in them (ex: AI)

      iv.   Could also help expand and diversify audience (ex: small session on internet and the performing arts, agriculture, something very unique/different, just to see what happens with the virtual format)

      v.   Should limit concurrent sessions regardless

      vi.   Around 60% against concurrent sessions, 40% for them

g. Going with 9 slots right now, could add smaller concurrent ones as well (one of the 9 slots could even be several very focused/unique ones)

h. Need to think about continued interest of new audiences (should only put effort into attracting them if the participation will be sustained, need to discover what specifically about the internet they are interested in)

i. Data Governance Privacy:

      i.   Potential to look back at the influence of Covid-19 on policy making (tracking, tracing, etc) → connects with last year's sessions

j. Able to send out more data by request, will put together a more specific proposal for the next meeting in order to determine the conference agenda