

FINISHED FILE

INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM USA 2021

WELCOME SESSION AND KEYNOTE

JULY 14, 2021

11:00 A.M. - 11:15 A.M. EASTERN

Services Provided By:

Caption First, Inc.
P.O. Box 3066
Monument, CO 80132
1 877 825 5234
+001 719 481 9835
Www.captionfirst.com

This text, document, or file is based on live transcription. Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART), captioning, and/or live transcription are provided in order to facilitate communication accessibility and may not be a totally verbatim record of the proceedings. This text, document, or file is not to be distributed or used in any way that may violate copyright law.

>> DUSTIN LOUP: All right. So I see people trickling in, and excited to get started here. So, let's go ahead and do this. Welcome, everyone to the IGF USA 2021. Thank you for joining. I'm Dustin Loup, cochair of the IGF USA and we have a great program in store for the next two days.

Last year's event, we focused on the uncertainty around the pandemic, and we captured that moment in time, focusing on the role that the Internet played in keeping us moving, where

it fell short and everywhere in between. This year, while we're not out of the pandemic yet, we are looking ahead to discuss the Internet that we want to see and how we think we can get there.

We have been discussing many of these issues at the IGF USA since 2009, and at that time, with the Internet's role in society, more prominent than ever, we are in a unique position to contribute insight into the issues facing the Internet with our multi-stakeholder dialogue and we have a lot of that planned for the next two days. So I will move us right along and get into the program. But before we get there, I want to run through a few housekeeping items to help you get the most out of the IGF USA 2021.

First, we have multiple viewing experiences. We have people watching both from the Zoom and the live stream. All the same content will be made available on both platforms, but if you would like to engage in the chat and ask questions, you will need to join by Zoom. And if you are viewing on live stream right now and want to be a more active participant in that way, it's not too late for you to register. You can go to IGFUSA.US to do that.

We have enabled the chat function and the Q&A function. The chat is for ongoing dialogue with other attendees, sharing resources, communicating with organizers, sharing ideas; whereas, the Q&A function for questions that you would like the panel to address. So following that, it will make the Q&A and chat more useful.

For the networking piece, we are trying to improve the virtual network of IGF USA using a platform called Remo. This allows you to interact during the breaks in smaller groups. It will work through your browser and provide the layout of a room with tables of varying sizes. You can have a one-on-one chat up to groups of six. In this format, you select the table you would like to sit at and you can hop to different tables as often as you would like.

The link to join the network lounge is available on the sched agenda website and we will post the links at the end of each section. And we will use this platform for the social event after today's sessions conclude. There's an informal happy hour. There's no structure, just an opportunity to continue to engage with others. And then after our final session tomorrow, at the close of the conference, we will hold closing reception which will include mixology 101 course where we will prepare session-themed cocktails and have Internet-themed trivia and a chance to chat with others. Please take a look at that cocktail menu to make sure you are not lacking any of the key ingredients. You can find that on the sched website, for IGF USA 2021 closing reception.

If you engage with us on social media, please use the #IGFUSA2021. And please remember that civil dialogue is key to a successful IGF USA. That goes not just for the conference but the community as a whole. So please make sure that you are familiar with the code of conduct that can be found in the participation guide on the sched website.

And one last thing that we would like to do before moving along here is take this opportunity to acknowledge all of the contributions that have made this event possible. It really all starts with the dedicated efforts of the steering committee, made up of dozens of volunteers that lead the development of all the sessions that you will be seeing throughout the duration of this conference.

Their collaborative planning effort is really the essence of the IGF USA and couldn't be done without it. Unfortunately, this year our steering committee was missing its chief catalyst, Marilyn Cade. Although she wasn't with us during the planning process, the effort she put in, you know, over a decade with tireless dedication that she gave to the IGF USA was very much felt and her presence was certainly with us in this planning process, and I know she would be incredibly proud of this year's program.

We also have a team behind the scenes making sure that the logistics are seamless, providing captions and live stream and all sorts of other types of support that are critical to making this happen. And, of course, we have our sponsors that have contributed in various ways and we would like to thank them. So we would like to thank those that have provided general support, which includes Amazon, ARIN, AT&T, the Internet Society Foundation, Lumen, Public Interest Registry, USCIB, and USTelecom and Verisign. They all provided very generous support that we wouldn't be able to hold this event without.

And then also I want to thank Donuts for being this year's caption sponsor, and .US for back the network sponsors and we also received other types of incredible in-kind support this year with the Glen Echo Group supporting our communications and outreach, Gather Voices and See2Do gathering us to create promotional videos and using our use of sched as our agenda platform this year.

So with that, looking forward to engaging with you all over the next two days and I will hand it over to my cochair Melinda Clem.

>> MELINDA CLEM: Thanks, Dustin. Welcome, everyone.

This year's event is a perfect representation of this point in time, and our respective roles.

We face challenges in the forms of malicious attacks causing outages, compromised personal data, rampant spread of harmful content and inadequate access to affordable Internet and simultaneously we see creative new uses of Internet, use cases that inform, educate, build small businesses, innovative tools to improve our health and our well-being and models to safely and security answer questions online. All of this possible because we come together as a possible, united by the understanding that a single, safe, accessible Internet is our goal.

This drive, this spirit, it's part of our culture. It's not enough to simply manage risk. We seek to conquer and to

end threats, to solve access issues, and to secure both our core Internet infrastructure, and the billions of devices connecting to it. We do this because anything short is inadequate. It's incompatible with our American DNA, and our ambition.

IGF USA and this event are part of that dynamic. Over the next two days, you will hear open and honest dialogue about vulnerabilities and challenges, a critical step in defining our path forward. We will also evaluate success stories, and the positive impact of achieving safe Internet to help remind us of why this is important. It's our goal that you are both informed and inspired and take what we discuss here and act upon it. We are glad to have you with us. And, again thankful to all of our steering committee members, our volunteers, the support team and all of our generous sponsors.