

## **Education Report – March 2007 – Board of Trustees Meeting**

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### **Summary:**

This document provides an update on major Education pillar activities since the end-of-year update provided in December 2006. It is organized based on the Education 2007-2009 Program submission to the November ISOC Board of Trustees meeting. The Education pillar is advancing steadily on its plan and commitments.

### **Expanding and Refining the Delivery of Technical Training Programs**

#### **ccTLD workshops**

##### Caribbean ccTLD Workshop, 14 - 17 February 2007

ISOC, in cooperation with NSRC and ICANN successfully conducted a ccTLD hands-on technical training workshop for the Caribbean region. Hosted by the University of Guyana in Georgetown, the workshop trained ccTLD staff from 8 Caribbean countries. All participants were greatly satisfied with the quality of the training and the regional community-building opportunities it provided. Details on the Guyana workshop are located at

<http://ws.edu.isoc.org/workshops/2007/ccTLD-Guyana/>

##### Other ccTLD Activities

ISOC is currently planning a ccTLD workshop for Central Asia in mid-2007 and is working with NSRC on the finalization of material for an “advanced” ccTLD workshop to be conducted by years end. Education staff has also received requests from ICANN to conduct a training workshop for the Middle East this year and a ccTLD policy tutorial in Russia. Both requests are being considered in light of available resources (including the availability of trainers and speakers).

Education staff have also revised the ccTLD pages on the ISOC website and is working with the Communications Pillar to draft “success stories” from past ccTLD workshops that will help illustrate the value of these programs. In addition, Education staff will be sending surveys to 2007 ccTLD workshop participants 3 – 6 months after the events in order to assess the lasting impact of these programs.

We have started to restructure our education web pages. For a general description about ISOC's ccTLD workshops, see <http://www.isoc.org/educpillar/cctld/>

#### **ISOC Fellowship to the IETF**

The Education pillar successfully launched and completed the first competitive selection round of the ISOC Fellowship to the IETF, which was received with great interest from the international press. Google, Inc. was secured as the first corporate sponsor of the program. Over 80 applications from around the world were received in

response to the call for applications. After an initial staff review, an international Fellowship selection committee comprised of Jim Galvin, Alain Aina, Jaap Akkerhuis, Sanjaya and Frederico Neves evaluated the applications and made the final selections. The selected Fellows for the next two IETF meetings are:

IETF 68 (Prague):

Tariq Rahim Soomro – Pakistan

Assistant Professor and Coordinator of the IT program, Fujairah Collage, UAE

Interests: Multilingual Internet issues/IDNs/DNS

Hichem Maalaoui – Tunisia

Head of Technical Innovation and New Projects, Tunisian Internet Agency

Interests: Wireless and Mobility

Ruwan L. Silva – Sri Lanka

IT Graduate Student, Blekinge Tekniska Hogskola University (Sweden)

Interests: SIP, IPTEL, ENUM

Alberto Francisco Martinez Herrera – Mexico

Research Assistant, Tecnologico de Monterrey (Monterrey Technical University)

Interests: DNSSEC/Security

IETF 69 (Chicago):

Burmaa Baasansuren – Mongolia

Director of the .MN Registry, Datacom

Interests: Security and IPv6

Sandra L. Cespedes – Columbia

IT Professor, Icesi University

Interests: IPv6, MANET, SIP

Asim Zaher – Pakistan

IT Graduate Student, Lahore University

Interests: Mobility, 6NG, IPsec

Mohamad Dikshie Fauzzie – Indonesia

IT Research Student, Keio University (Japan)

Interests: IPv6, PIM

Raj Gurung – Nepal

IT Graduate Student – Western Illinois University (US)

Interests: QoS, Routing, IPv6, MANET

All applicants who were not selected were sent information on how to participate and follow the work of the IETF through Working Group mailing lists, meeting webcasts, and by reading the IETF Journal. In addition, all applicants were encouraged to become members of the Internet Society at two intervals: 1) in the automatic message

they received on confirmation the receipt of their application and 2) in the e-mails informing them of the selection decisions.

Education staff will shortly be conducting a review of the process with a view towards identifying areas for improvement. In addition, Education staff has also established a “Fellowship Alumni Network,” which will allow ISOC to stay in contact with Fellowship recipients and provide them ISOC news and information of interest, as well as help Fellowship alumni to stay in contact after their IETF experience. Also, Education staff is working with the Communications pillar to develop promotional material for the Fellowship that can be used to reach out to prospective applicants and program sponsors, as well as communication the value of the program to ISOC membership and the international community.

### **Regional Operators Fora**

#### SANOG 9: 14 – 24 January 2007, Sri Lanka

ISOC funded fellowships for 13 individuals and one workshop instructor to attend the SANOG 9 meeting in Sri Lanka in January.

<http://www.sanog.org/sanog9/>

#### AfNOG 8: 23 April – 4 May 2007, Abuja, Nigeria

ISOC is currently working with AfNOG to fulfil its funding request for the 8<sup>th</sup> AfNOG meeting, being held in conjunction with AfriNIC 6 and AfREN.

<http://www.afnog.org/>

The Education pillar, in coordination with the African Regional bureau and the Policy pillar, is currently working on the agenda and logistics for the regional INET meeting taking place at AfNOG.

Education staff also proposed to AfNOG an idea to host an event related to IXPs and traffic exchange at the meeting. The notion was met with enthusiasm on the part of AfNOG and, as a result, a day-long session is now scheduled for 30 April. The overall goal of the event is to bring together IXP operators across Africa (and near term prospective operators) to exchange information about their experience and operations, to increase local knowledge about traffic exchange by offering presentations by international experts, and to identify issues that need to be addressed to promote better traffic exchange in the region. Randy Bush and NSRC will be assisting with the agenda.

As IXP and local traffic exchange promotion is part of our overall “Small but Substantial” Access strategy, and is expected to be followed by further activities in this area, funding for the event will come from the ISOC “Small but Substantial” line item. We will also work to promote the importance and value of the event by issuing a meeting report and making presentation materials available on the Workshop Resource Centre website.

## **Regional INETs**

ISOC is organising a Regional INET Meeting in Africa in conjunction with AfNOG and AfriNIC on 4 May. The agenda will cover security and unwanted traffic issues as well as Internet governance. More information can be found on <http://www.isoc.org/isoc/conferences/inet/07>. We have also agreed with the organisers to provide video and audio records of the event so the information can be utilized more broadly.

In addition to the African regional INET, preparations have begun for an INET meeting to be hosted in Latin American in conjunction with LACNIC end of May 2007. With the next Internet Governance Forum meeting being held in Brazil in November, it is anticipated that the Latin American INET event will cover Internet Governance issues in depth.

## **Improving Technical Information Distribution**

### **IETF Journal**

Volume 2, Issue 3 of the IETF, which reports on events from IETF 67 in San Diego was successfully issued in February. The Education pillar has also secured layout and formatting assistance in support of IETF Journal publication. See the latest issue on <http://ietfjournal.isoc.org/>

### **Miscellaneous**

The Education pillar has undertaken a project to identify and organize by issue the various briefings, white papers, articles, statements and other informational material ISOC currently has on its website. The purpose of this exercise is to 1) consolidate relevant ISOC material by subject matter with a view towards creating an “Internet Issues” section of the website where visitors can find ISOC resources and position papers by their topic of interest, 2) to identify material that is out of date and needs to be updated and 3) to identify “gaps” in information on key Internet issues that ISOC should seek to fill.

As part of the effort, Education will be reaching out to Chapters and Members to ascertain their views regarding what issues they view as a priority for ISOC focus on and what materials they have created or could create to help strengthen the body of information ISOC provides to the community and the world. The Education pillar is also working with the Regional Bureaus and Chapters on an initiative to identify informational documents that should be translated into languages other than English, with French and Spanish being the first target languages.

Education staff met with Kevin Karp and Kate Lance of the ISOC Australia chapter to discuss general ISOC activities and education initiatives in particular. The chapter is interested in finding ways to contribute its experience in IPv6 education to other Chapters and to any future ISOC efforts in this area. Education staff will be

presenting to the Chapter's next Board Meeting and will be discussing opportunities to leverage their IPv6 work specifically.

## **Identifying Additional Opportunities in Technical and Policy Education**

### **Access**

#### **Wireless**

Based on submissions to the ISOC "Major Strategic Initiative" which were taking into regular ISOC operations, the Education pillar is working to explore opportunities to provide wireless training to regional communities. In addition, ISOC is reaching out to the Network Operators Groups in order to assess their interest in adding a wireless training track to their work. NSRC has offered to assist with the development of a wireless curriculum. We will also be reaching out to other organizations and association in the development of this program, as well as the original contributors of this idea to the "Major Strategic Initiative."

Also, an interesting suggestion emerged from a meeting with PICISOC President Rajnesh Singh to develop training modules based on Rob Flickenger's book *Wireless Networking in the Developing World*. Education will be looking into this idea, and at a minimum, will be providing links to the English, French and Spanish versions of the book on the ISOC website.

#### **IXP/Traffic Exchange**

As indicated in the AfNOG section above, ISOC will be hosting a one day event at the AfNOG meeting in Abuja, Nigeria aimed at increasing regional knowledge about traffic exchange issues and creating a greater sense of community among the African IXPs.

### **Security**

One of the "Major Strategic Initiative" contributions focused on DNSSEC. As indicated in the ccTLD section above, Education staff is working to finalize an "advanced" ccTLD training curriculum in coordination with NSRC and other partners that will - among other topics - address DNSSEC issues. In addition, we will be contacting the submitter of the DNSSEC proposal to see if a Member Briefing or other informational document could be written on the issue. In addition, DNSSEC is being considered as a topic for a web-based seminar.

### **Multilingual Internet/Local Content**

Education is working in conjunction with the Policy Pillar and African Regional Bureau to investigate opportunities to facilitate and extend the multilingual Internet work being conducted by various parties in Africa. We also have been working with

John Klensin to revise and update a number of draft papers on multilingual Internet issues and IDNs.

### **Policymaker Education**

The Education pillar, in coordination with Membership and Policy, issued a survey to ISOC Organizational Members in order to gain input on areas they see as priorities for policymaker education over the next 12 – 18 months. Responses are due by 1 April. A similar survey will be sent to Chapters in the near term.

We are also pursuing an opportunity to conduct a regional policymaker education event in the Pacific Islands region, in conjunction with PICISOC and other regional bodies.

### **Miscellaneous**

Education is working with the Communications, Membership and Policy pillars to explore the potential to offer series of web-based seminars (“webinars”) a range of Internet issues, both technical and policy related, using Marratech or another conferencing platform. The Education pillar will also be investigating the use of the platform to “pre-record” tutorials and other educational presentations which could be made available on the ISOC website.

### **Building ISOC’s “Education and Capacity Building Identity in the International ICT Development Sphere.**

### **FRIDA and PanAsia Small Grants Programs**

#### **FRIDA**

The second round of the FRIDA grants program for digital innovation in Latin American and the Caribbean is expected to be announced on 15 March. ISOC will be participating in this program, which offers small grants to ICT research and innovation projects to regional non-profit organizations. The program is managed by LACNIC, with significant participation from IDRC. ISOC has been offered a seat on the FRIDA Program Steering Committee. Sebastian Bellagamba, ISOC’s Latin American Regional Bureau manager, will represent ISOC on the committee.

ISOC has confirmed that ISOC Chapters meeting the eligibility criteria would have the opportunity to submit proposals for funding. ISOC will notify Chapters in the LAC region of project submission opportunities as soon as they are announced.

In addition to the direct benefits the program brings to local communities and researchers, participation in these types of activities helps further ISOC’s reputation and reach as a global organization and helps us build partnerships with regional and global development organization.

## **Other Organizations**

Education staff will be attending the next board meeting of the SILK Project, which focuses on bringing Internet to the Caucasus and Central Asia. The meeting is taking place in The Netherlands on 12 – 16 March. ISOC has supported SILK training activities in the past and Education staff will attend to find out if there are opportunities for further collaboration.