

## FOREWORD BY FRED BAKER CHAIR, BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Since its inception, the Internet Society has dedicated itself to the open development, evolution, and use of the Internet for the benefit of all people throughout the world. Our success is due in large part to a set of beliefs that have guided our mission and informed our actions. We believe the Internet is a critical tool for the advancement of economic growth, community self-reliance, and social justice throughout the world. We believe in its ability to empower individuals and to increase access to education and opportunity. More than that, we believe it gives each and every one of us a voice.

Connecting those beliefs to a set of strategies is where the real work of the Internet Society begins. In 2005, the Internet Society engaged in the development of a Strategic Operating Plan. Those of you with similar experience can appreciate both the tangible and intangible benefits of such an endeavour. Guided by the vision and the principles set by ISOC's Board of Trustees, ISOC's dedicated staff created a

blueprint that leverages the organisation's collective expertise, skills, and influence and propels ISOC into the future.

ISOC has made great strides over the past few years. Today we are regularly featured in global policy forums, speaking on behalf of our members and the Internet community, particularly with regard to Internet Governance. We remain committed to building capacity in all corners of the world, which we achieve through education and training programmes that reach even the most remote locations. And we continually work toward increasing support for the Internet's premier standards-making body, the Internet Engineering Task Force, as it works to advance its own efforts in an increasingly complex and demanding environment.

We thank all of you for your contribution to the successes of 2005. And we look forward to building on those successes next year and beyond.



*Fred Baker*



*Lynn St. Amour*

## FOREWORD BY LYNN ST. AMOUR PRESIDENT AND CEO

I am pleased to report that in all three of the Internet Society's key focus areas—Standards, Public Policy, and Education—2005 was a year of significant progress. The Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) established the IETF Administrative Support Activity within ISOC, thereby deepening ISOC's relationship with the IETF. We are now widely recognised for contributions to the global debate on Internet Governance. And we have not only expanded our efforts to educate policy makers across the world but have also increased our training and education activities in developing countries. Those accomplishments and the global recognition they bring mean ISOC is better positioned to advance the Internet for the benefit of all people than it has been in any time in its history.

At ISOC we believe the quality of life for people in all parts of the world is enhanced by the ability to enjoy the benefits of an open and global Internet. However, challenges remain: not only in the area of Internet Governance, where we

work to ensure that the Internet remains open and accessible to all, but also in such areas as capacity building for developing countries, multilingualisation, trust models, and the Net Neutrality issue, which surfaced last year. Hence a significant portion of our work in the years to come will be in the areas of technical education and policy, where we expect to work more closely than ever with our members, chapters, and partner organisations.

The successes of the past year would not have been possible without continuing support by our Organisation and Individual members, Chapter participants, and partner organisations, nor would they have been possible without the leadership demonstrated by ISOC's Board of Trustees. Your support of ISOC—and your belief in the vision of the Internet that we hold—helped us realise many of our goals and objectives in 2005. I look forward to working with all of you on the challenges that lie ahead. Thank you for your support.