

2004 PAB Election - Election Statements (in alphabetical order and as submitted)

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Denesh Bhabuta, Cyberstrider

Proposed by: Thus PLC

Seconded by: LINX

I believe in steering Nominet in a direction beneficial to the .uk community, particularly the Members.

Nominet is unique:

- * Not-for-profit within a fast-paced profit oriented industry
- * Guardian of a national resource with serious responsibilities
- * Membership of individuals, small and large private organisations. Each have an equal say in steering Nominet.

I would like re-election to continue work in progress. Having completed past pledges, my aims are to:

- * Investigate further efficiency:
 - o More automation of administrative and operational tasks
 - o Web based tools for administering Member/Tag-Holder accounts in real time
 - o Staff availability outside standard office hours
- * Push for more transparency:
 - o More effective (and two-way) communications with Members and stakeholders at large
 - o Better corporate governance
 - o Tracking system
- * Make Nominet a centre of technical excellence on .uk related issues
- * Review Member and Tag-Holder standing within Nominet
- * Review rights and responsibilities of Tag-Holders and Registrants
- * Improve interaction between PAB and Members/Tag-Holders
- * Develop a braver, stronger Nominet

Having 15 years of Internet experience, I bridge the gap between business and technical people in this industry. I have accepted voluntary posts and worked for small and large, profit and not-for-profit, Member and Non-Member organisations worldwide and understand the issues they face in the current economic, competitive climate.

I believe my position as Nominet PAB member since inception allows me to bring the desired experience, history and continuity to the committee.

Further details are at <http://www.denesh.co.uk/pab2004/>

James Conaghan, Name Dropper

Proposed by: UK Domains

Seconded by: Real Data Services Ltd

I stand for representation for all.

I have been a Member of Nominet since 1999. I believe Members have a right to hold Nominet to account, we are an important Stakeholder group. The PAB exists

to represent the UK Internet Community as a whole, I believe they should be more pro-active in holding the CoM to account. I also believe the CoM should be expanded to allow more representation for the 2,771 members we now have.

I believe in Nominet's non-commercial status and that it should be protected but not at the cost of democracy. The current Voting Structure means that 0.1 % of Members can out-vote 69 %. In my opinion this is detrimental to the interests of the UK Internet Community Nominet purports to serve.

PAB elections are 1 person 1 vote. Not so in CoM elections. If 1,917 members voted for the same candidate in the next CoM election, their votes could be rendered worthless by just 3 members with more votes. Tantamount to saying that 1,917 opinions don't matter. This may equate to security of tenure for the hierarchy but it isn't democracy. Read more here: <http://www.conaghan.me.uk>

The promise:

I believe Stakeholder interests are in danger of being sacrificed to corporate and outside influences. I believe YOUR views should count equally and I will fight to have them heard and acted upon. Vote me onto the PAB and together we can work in the best interests of the UK Internet Community.

James Cronin

Proposed by: A L Digital

Seconded by: Easynet Ltd

James has served as a PAB member attending every meeting for the last two years and is standing for re-election. He is also a member of the Advisory Council to the .ORG registry.

He has been active on the UK Internet scene since 1993 working as developer, systems administrator, technical director or CTO for several top UK ISPs and new media companies. He is currently consultant technical architect for BBC News Interactive and BBCi.

He has been involved in Internet development at all levels from technical management and programming to strategic development. He has won numerous awards over the years for his work, including New Media Age's "Best Use of Web" and the BT/New Statesman "Overall Merit" in their New Media Awards.

James participated in the UK Naming committee before Nominet was founded and represented Easynet at the first Nominet AGM. He has been a personal member of Nominet since 1998.

He brings a technically expert viewpoint supported by a considerable background of commercial and non-commercial experience; representing no corporate interest he participates in debate and policy making completely objectively with no danger of compromise.

In his spare time James runs a number of highly successful websites including FaxYourMP.com and STAND.org.uk. He is chairman and trustee of the charity UK Citizens Online Democracy, co-founder of mySociety.org, is involved in a number of e-democracy and e-campaigning projects and is a wine and single malt freak.

James would like to continue to strongly represent your and the community's interests on the PAB.

Gordon Hudson, Hostroute.com Ltd

Proposed by: Alba Trading

Seconded by: Name Dropper

I am founder and Managing Director of Hostroute.com Ltd (www.ustroute.net), a web hosting and domain name registration company which hosts over 16,000 web

sites on servers in the UK, US and Canada with separate brands for each market.

Prior to this I was in senior management in the voluntary sector.

One of the things I have learned from running an international business is that our communication needs to be easily understandable by people whose first language is not English. I would hope to champion the cause of clear communication during my time on the PAB, something which will benefit all stakeholders not just overseas registrants.

Also, as someone from Scotland I believe it is important that stakeholders from the devolved regions of the UK are represented in Nominet's consultation and decision making process. This is particularly important if applications for regional SLD's are made under the new procedure.

My business activities take me to London on a regular basis and I will have no difficulty attending meetings.

Alex Kells, Mistral Internet

Proposed by: Peter Gradwell

Seconded by: Cyberstrider

I have worked in the ISP industry for the last five years (for Frontier Internet and now Mistral Internet, both founding members of Nominet). My role has consisted of dealing almost exclusively with domain names and related issues; and as such I have a good understanding of the politics and history of .uk and the gTLDs.

I have attended four AGMs (not just the ones conveniently located in London!) and a number of Nominet's other less formal meetings. I read Nom-steer regularly. I have experience of working within a committee structure very similar to Nominet's, as an active participant in the Membership Committee of a housing co-operative.

The areas of interest that I would like to see the PAB discussing include:

- * Pro-active communication about existing services, eg WHOIS2
- * Re-instatement of the New Member Workshops
- * Nominet staff participation in Nom-Steer
- * Improving procedures for the detag backlog and the retag procedure
- * Nominet's participation with external organisations such as CENTR and ICANN etc
- * How to interest the vast majority of members/tag holders in becoming more actively involved in Nominet
- * Internationalised domain names
- * .net.uk and the various anomalies from the pre-Nominet days
- * Evaluation of the Positive Renewals procedure
- * Online control panel for members/tag holders
- * Whether tag holders should have the ability to make changes to the Registrant field

I welcome any suggestions or comments to alex@mistral.net

Ben Laurie, A.L. Digital Ltd

Proposed by: Host Europe

Seconded by: A.L. Digital Ltd

I have served on the PAB for the last two years. In that time I led the effort to introduce working groups and would very much like to see them come to fruition so that members and other stakeholders can be more usefully engaged in the process of making policy for Nominet.

I also vigorously opposed the change to the SLD process forced on us by the OFT. Sadly, although the PAB voted against the change, the CoM decided to ignore us; but this battle is not over, in my opinion, and I am keen to continue to fight it. As always, my first priority is to keep Nominet operating for the benefit of the Internet community, and not for the benefit of a small group's bank balances. My second priority is to try and make things as easy and efficient as they can be for tagholders, particularly small ones.

2004 PAB election results

NAME OF ORGANISATION: Nominet UK

ELECTION OF: Policy Advisory Board 2004

NUMBER TO BE ELECTED: 4

TOTAL VALID VOTE: 338

QUOTA: 67.60

INVALID PAPERS: 3

Candidates	First Stage	2nd Stage		3rd Stage	
		Surplus of Bhabuta @0.35		Exclusion of Hudson	
Bhabuta Elected	101	-33.40	67.60		67.60
Conaghan Elected	68		68.00		68.00
Cronin Elected	63	12.95	75.95		75.95
Hudson	18	2.80	20.80	-20.80	0.00
Kells Elected	55	11.20	66.20	7.75	73.95
Laurie	33	6.30	39.30	8.35	47.65
Non-distributable remainders of surpluses		0.15	0.15		0.15
Non-transferable (preferences exhausted)				4.70	4.70
TOTAL	338		338		338