

Board election statements 2002

The election statements are in order of receipt:

Fay Howard

Proposed by:

Gordon Dick Seconded by: Netconnex Ltd

I accept the nomination for the forthcoming election and believe I could make a significant contribution to Nominet's future direction.

I am an independent candidate and have no commercial interest in domain name registration. I would listen to the views of Nominet members and represent them in an impartial manner.

My primary objective would be to ensure that Nominet pushes ahead with innovations in registration technology and takes a proactive role in encouraging good practice in the industry. It is important to ensure that Nominet operates efficiently and effectively and is prepared for challenge or review.

Until April 2002, I worked with Nominet as Manager of INCOP, a feasibility study for a Code of Practice in domain name registration services. Working at Nominet gave me insight into the operational issues and my role enabled me to meet with many Nominet members and hear their perceptions and requirements. Although INCOP was not feasible as the voluntary membership organisation envisaged, I believe industry self-regulation should be pursued.

Prior to working for Nominet, I was the General Manager of the Council of European National Top level domain Registries, representing country code TLDs in the international arena and facilitating exchange of information between registries. I have studied the operating procedures of many ccTLDs and believe that much can be learnt from the experiences of others.

I am Chairman of the Domain Name Registration Forum held at RIPE meetings to provide an international and arena for domain name issues. I have also served the Names Council of ICANN's DNSO, an elected body created to give policy input on domain name-related policy.

By professional training I am a legal liabilities underwriter and was responsible for the risk assessment and profitability of an eleven million pound account.

Keith Mitchell

Existing Nominet UK Board member standing for re-election

I have been involved in the UK Internet community for over 15 years, and instrumental in its evolution and governance for most of this time, notably as a founder Director of Nominet as well as of LINX, RIPE NCC, and my current company XchangePoint where I am CTO.

This experience has reinforced my belief that the principles of neutrality, transparency and accountability are fundamental to operating a not-for-profit membership organisation. It cannot be assumed these are built-in to the structure of any organisation, upholding them requires constant pro-active attention, communication, and sound judgment.

Although Nominet has recently experienced the consequences of letting some of these slip, I believe that as a CoM we have taken timely and appropriate action to rectify this, and there are already signs of improved interactions between the Members, PAB, CoM and Executive.

Changes I regard as a priority include more open and simpler access to Nominet's mailing lists and web site, including a web-based e-mail archive; a major re-development of the web site including automaton, billing and e-certificate capabilities; and enhancing Nominet's name server and connectivity infrastructure. I intend to apply my proven technical background in support of the Nominet Executive and new IT Director to realise these.

During our industry's current difficulties I believe it is more important than ever that Nominet listens to its members. It should protect their interests to the maximum degree compatible with operating within the law and upholding good competition & consumer protection practice in the wider public policy arena.

Being a member of the Nominet CoM remains a rewarding privilege, and I seek to serve the members and wider Internet community to the same levels of commitment and track record as I have over the 6 years since Nominet's inception.

My Biography can be found at:

<http://www.keithmitchell.co.uk/keith/biography.html>

Steve Dyer

Existing Nominet UK Board member standing for re-election

Two years ago I joined the board of Nominet UK. During that time I have attended every board meeting, most PAB meetings, read nearly every posting on nom-steer - replying to many, and attended most talk-back sessions. I have done my best to live up to my original intention to broaden communications with the membership.

Credit for Nominet's progress must go equally to my fellow Board members and the Executive.

Balancing the wide variety of members' requirements with the business stability of Nominet isn't easy but I think that over the period Nominet has prospered.

We now face increasing government interest in regulation and the domain market is changing. In response we have started to re-structure Nominet to increase its efficiency and bring new commercial business practices to the maintenance of our not-for-profit status.

I believe that I have succeeded in bringing a wider vision to Nominet's strategy whilst giving the management freedom to manage.

The introduction of a Code of Practice has proved an intractable problem and its implementation applies to the wider industry and not just Nominet's back yard. I am working to bring together all the communities affected by the Code so that its implementation becomes a practical and realistic benchmark that raises the standards of our industry. To further this process I have stood for and been elected to the ISPA Council. This bridge building is already proving useful.

There is still much to do, and I'm happy to stand for re-election to help do it. I trust I've repaid the confidence of those members who elected me, (and indeed helped those who didn't) and supported the staff of Nominet UK who are so often the unsung heroes of this business.

Thank you for your support.

Ben Laurie

Proposed by: AL Digital Ltd

Seconded by: James Cronin

I am a founding director, recently re-elected for my fourth term, of the Apache Software Foundation (<http://www.apache.org/>), a not for profit organisation promoting and supporting free software, perhaps best known for the Apache webserver, which is the world's most widely used webserver. I am also a core team member of the OpenSSL Team (<http://www.openssl.org/>), which is the world's most widely used free cryptographic library. I am also technical and financial director of A.L. Digital Ltd. (<http://www.aldigital.co.uk/>) and The Bunker (<http://www.thebunker.net/>).

I believe strongly that the critical infrastructure of the Internet should be run for the good of the Internet as a whole and should be done as cheaply as possible (whilst fulfilling its mission) and not merely as a vehicle to generate revenue. I am also a strong advocate of privacy and security on the Internet.

Although I was only recently elected to the Policy Advisory Board, I have come to realise that Nominet has plenty of room for improvement, both operationally and in terms of fulfilling the needs of members and registrants, and it is for that reason that I am now seeking election to the Council of Management.

2002 Board election results

ELECTION OF: CoM

NUMBER to BE ELECTED: 2

NUMBER of VOTING PAPERS RETURNED: 234

VALID VOTES: 2831 INVALID VOTES: 1

QUOTA: 943.67

Candidates	First Stage
MITCHELL	232
LAURIE	232
HOWARD E1	1333
DYER E2	1034
Non-distributable remainders of surpluses	
Non-transferable (preferences exhausted)	
TOTAL	2831

The election was conducted by Single Transferable Vote. The following candidates were elected (in order of election).

- Fay HOWARD
- Steve DYER