

January 13, 2014

### Report Release Statement

The Final Report of the Community Informatics Nominating Committee for the Global Multistakeholder Meeting on the Future of the Internet Governance was completed yesterday. (Copy Attached)

The Report details the selection process for nominees to the Global Multistakeholder Meeting on the Future of the Internet Governance (GMMFIG) to be held in Sao Paulo, Brazil on April 23-24, 2014. The Meeting will focus on crafting Internet governance principles and proposing a roadmap for the further evolution of the Internet governance ecosystem.

The Nominating Committee's (NomCom) charge was to recommend four candidates to participate in shaping the GMMFIG's work. The Nominating Committee's five voting members were David Nemer, Parminder Jeet Singh, Brian Beaton, Chris Zielinski, and Charles Dhewa. After completing a careful review of the position requirements and candidates, the NomCom chose the following:

- Multistakeholder High Level Committee - the nominee was Cristian Berrio Zapata
- Executive Multistakeholder Committee - the nominee was Michael Gurstein
- 1Net Academic Posts Steering Committee - the nominees were Doug Schuler and Cristian Berrio Zapata

Having closely followed the organization of the upcoming meeting in Brazil, the NomCom's members added a codicil to their report, recommending that their selectees also be charged with interfacing with the 1Net, an entity assisting with organizing the April 23-23 Meeting.

Details of the NomCom's work including process and candidate biographies can be found in the attached report: Community Informatics Nominating Committee for the Global Multistakeholder Meeting on the Future of the Internet Governance, January 12, 2014.

Sincerely,

Thomas Lowenhaupt, (non-voting) Chair of the Nominating Committee  
[TomL@communisphere.com](mailto:TomL@communisphere.com)

Community Informatics Nominating Committee for the  
Global Multistakeholder Meeting on the Future of the Internet Governance  
(<http://brmeeting.br/>)

Final Report - January 12, 2014

This document presents the origin and workings of the Community Informatics Nominating Committee established to select candidates to participate in the Global Multistakeholder Meeting on the Future of the Internet Governance. It includes background on that Meeting and the formation of the nominating committee, biographies of candidates to the various positions, the review criterion, and the results of the committee's work. **The list of selected candidates can be found on the final page of this document.**

## Background

A Nominating Committee (NomCom) was formed to recommend participants for the Global Multistakeholder Meeting on the Future of the Internet Governance to be held in Sao Paulo, Brazil on April 23-24, 2014. Details on that Meeting are found [here](#).

The NomCom was charged with selecting four nominees to entities in support of that Meeting:

- **High-Level Multistakeholder Committee** (One Nominee) - The High-Level Multistakeholder Committee, chaired by the Brazilian Minister of Communications Mr. Paulo Bernardo Silva, will be responsible for overseeing the overall strategy of the meeting and fostering the involvement of the international community. It will be composed of: Ministerial-level representation from twelve governments; twelve members of the multistakeholder community (3 from civil society, 3 from the private sector, 3 from academia and 3 from the technical community); and two representatives from International Organizations to be appointed by the Secretary General of the United Nations. As of the conclusion of the NomCom effort, the members of this committee were to be announced on Monday, January 27th 2014.
- **Executive Multistakeholder Committee** (One Nominee) - The EMC will be responsible for organizing the event, including the discussion and implementation of the agenda, and the selection of the participants and the various stakeholders' proposals.
- **1Net Steering Committee** (Two Nominees)- Two CI nominees were to be selected

for the academic posts on the “1net” Steering Committee.

## **Nominating Committee Member Selection**

The voting members of the NomCom were selected from a panel chosen via a process specified in the Community Informatics Research Networks’ [CIRN Commons](#).

Members were chosen based on the results of the Saturday Jan 4, 2014 Lotto draw of the UK National Lottery. The drawn numbers were: 4 11 18 28 41 44 and the bonus ball: 8.

As per the agreed process this lead to the following random selection of voting members of the NomCom:

4. David Nemer
6. Parminder Jeet Singh
7. Brian Beaton
2. Chris Zielinski
10. Charles Dhewa

Additionally, there were two reserves: 9. (first reserve) and 3. (second reserve). A non-voting chair was to be selected by the voting members of the NonCom.

## **Nominating Committee Member Biographies**

### **David Nemer**

David is a PhD student at Indiana University at the School of Informatics and Computing, concentrating in Social Informatics. He received a Master of Science degree in Computer Science from Saarland University, Germany. He also holds a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science from FAESA, Brazil and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from UFES, Brazil. David’s research, *Rethinking Digital Inequalities: the experience of the marginalized in community technology centers*, critically investigates digital technology programs in marginalized areas and illuminates the complex relationship between digital and social inclusion.

Based on critical ethnography of community technology centers (CTCs) in Brazil, the research asks the following two questions: what is the experience of marginalized people in these centers? How do they inform the ways we think about what constitutes

“empowerment” and “disempowerment” vis-à-vis technology? The research aims to develop a framework for studying CTCs in marginalized areas which emphasizes the socio-cultural dynamics of technological practices and attempts to understand such dynamics and practices on the terms of the marginalized.

David has recently published his first book “Favela Digital - The other side of technology” in which he shows in photos and short texts the technology use by the residents of the slums.

### **Parminder Jeet Singh**

Parminder worked for nearly a decade in the government, where he initiated innovative e-governance projects. During this time, in 2001, he co-authored the book, “Government@Net: E-governance opportunities for India” (Sage Publications). He was invited to do a research study at the INSEAD Business School in France on ‘New ICTs for community and governance institutions’. Subsequently, he has worked with many ICTD field projects, as well as in policy research and advocacy related to information society issues. At IT for Change, Parminder is the coordinator of a UNDP-funded field project, which aims to bring new ICTs to disadvantaged rural women, and is co-coordinator of IT for Change’s research and advocacy project ‘Information Society for the South’.

In the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), Parminder was active in the debates around financing and information society governance issues. He is closely associated with post-WSIS structures, namely the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD), UN Global Alliance for ICTs and Development (GAID), and the UN Internet Governance Forum (IGF). He is currently a co-coordinator of the Civil Society Internet Governance Caucus.

Parminder is a member of the Strategy Council of the UN’s Global Alliance on ICTs and Development, and a Special Advisor to the Chair of the Multi-stakeholder Advisory Group of the UN’s Internet Governance Forum.

### **Brian Beaton**

Brian has been developing and working on innovative ICT projects with First Nation communities since 1983. His work began in the late 1970’s developing and delivering IT training projects in Northern Ontario. In 1987 this work expanded to developing and supporting the delivery of distance education programs with remote First Nations. Since 1994, he has been the Coordinator of KO-KNET with the Keewatinook Okimakanak (Northern Chiefs) Tribal Council based in Sioux Lookout, Ontario, Canada. Working with

his team and collaborating First Nations he worked to support the development of local First Nation broadband infrastructure in many First Nations, regional backbone networks, a First Nations social media service and email service, the Northern Indigenous Community Satellite Network and the innovative Keewaytinook Mobile cellular service. KO-KNET supports the Keewaytinook Internet High School (KiHS) and KO Telemedicine (KOTM). Since 2004, Brian has also been a partner on several national research initiatives, including the First Nations Innovation (<http://fn-innovation-pn.com>) and First Mile (<http://firstmile.ca>) projects. Brian has a BMath (Mathematics / Computer Science) from the University of Waterloo and is now a graduate student (Critical Studies in Education) at the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton. Contact: [brian.beaton@unb.ca](mailto:brian.beaton@unb.ca)

### **Chris Zielinski**

Chris held senior positions at the World Health Organization for 15 years, in Africa, WHO's Geneva Headquarters, and India, and earlier in other UN-system organizations – working in writing, media, publishing, knowledge management, and intellectual property. He also spent three years as Chief Executive of the Authors Licensing and Collecting Society (looking after the intellectual property revenues of all UK authors and journalists). Chris was the founder of the ExtraMED project (Third World biomedical journals on CD-ROM), and managed the Gates Foundation-supported Health Information Centres project. At WHO he was appointed to the Ethical Review Committee, and was an originator of the African Health Observatory during his years in Brazzaville. With interests in the information, and computer ethics and bioethics, Chris has edited numerous books and journals and worked as a translator. Now working independently, Chris has recently finished writing a travel book called *Afreekinout*.

### **Charles Dhewa**

Chief Executive Officer, Knowledge Transfer Africa, Harare, Zimbabwe

On January 5, 2014 the NomCom members selected Thomas Lowenhaupt as non-voting chair.

### **Thomas Lowenhaupt**

Thomas has been engaged with governance and technology development for over three decades. He is the founding director of Connecting.nyc Inc., a New York State nonprofit advocating for the acquisition and development of the .nyc Top Level Domain and a public interest resource. He has participated in a dozens of conferences focused on Internet

governance, including those of ICANN, IGF, and the RIRs. He is an active member of the Civil Society Internet Governance Caucus where he served as chair of two nominating committees.

Thomas was as a member of a New York City planning board for 16 years. While on the board he introduced an Internet Empowerment Resolution that initiated the .nyc effort. He studied government as an undergrad and received a masters from NYU's Interactive Telecommunications program (the ITP).

## **Candidates Considered**

Candidates were considered for three positions:

- **High-Level Multistakeholder Committee** (1 position)
  - Harleen Kaur
  - Cristian Berrio Zapata
  - Laban Bagui
  
- **Executive Multistakeholder Committee** (1 position)
  - Harleen Kaur
  - Cristian Berrio Zapata
  - Michael Gurstein
  
- **1Net Academic Posts Steering Committee** (2 positions)
  - Doug Schuler
  - Rasika Dayarathna
  - Heather Gray
  - Harleen Kaur
  - Cristian Berrio Zapata

## **Candidate Statements**

### **Laban Bagui - Statement of Interest**

My name is Laban Bagui and I am bidding for the Multistakeholder HighLevel Committee position.

I have been involved with the CI network since 2010 as part of various research related projects (K&MP feasibility study, Melissa project, SAICTED project) here in South Africa, my Masters degree research project, through the ciresearch Network mailing list, the attendance of the Prato CIRN 2011 conference, and my publications focusing on exploring eParticipation in Africa.

I am an African male from Cameroon in central Africa. I was born and grew up in Douala - Cameroon. I left Cameroon to continue with my studies in Cape Town - South Africa, where I am residing now. I hold a research master degree in Information technology with my thesis exploring eParticipation in the city of Cape Town.

As a Cameroonian, I am from the central African area. That region of Africa is constituted by the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and is usually overlooked. For example, Google map can only show a few cities, while on the ground you have many more villages and cities between two cities of the digital map.

I might not be able to bring an account of meeting with the rural Cameroon, bringing them Internet, but I could tell from my experience how it is like to be in an African city with an infant Internet infrastructure. There is a need for some space for the the penetration of Internet to translate into real appropriation and people start to use it to benefit from the knowledge and service that they can have access to from there.

I signed the Community Informatics declaration "An Internet for the Common Good - Engagement, Empowerment, and Justice for All" because it represents a solid seed for the cultivation of the democratisation of knowledge and of it channel that is the Internet.

I have a strong interest in research and social entrepreneurship.

My research interests include eParticipation, eDemocracy, eGovernance, Open government, eLearning, eCommerce and Information systems.

I started a social enterprise (*GIC Osmose IT du Cameroun*) in 2004 in Cameroon but struggled to keep it working in the local environment (red tape, lack of funding, etc.) for 4 years before leaving the country to further my studies. The organisation was providing very low cost assistance with the maintenance of personal computers, and also with the training in the use of computers and the Internet. We were operating in Douala.

At this point in time, with regard to the description of the role of a member of the

"Multi-stakeholder High Level Committee" with a community informatics perspective (the declaration), I will have to engage with mainly grass rooted individuals and non-governmental organisation in developing a political agenda that will be brought forward at the conference in Sao Paolo.

I do not have much experience in performing these kind of activities, but I have the enthusiasm and I am ready to learn. I am persuaded that with the support of the many expertise present in the CI network I will be able to bring on the table of discussions a valid and respectable opinion.

I will be available over email and on social media.

I will be available for traveling to attend caucuses and meetings where needed as long as means of transports are provided.

I am prepared to give 3 hours per day for 5 days in a week, preferably afternoons and evenings so that I could have access to 12 time zones (From Mexico to Pakistan), while people are getting to work on one side and when they are going to bed on the other side.

I intend to engage with enough people to be able to emulate new voices which may be able to take over with enough experience of the task at hand. Further I will be regularly updating the CI network of progress and events on the mailing list, in a regular digest and in reports on the CIRN wiki.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need more information about me and my ability to better conduct this endeavor.

Best regards,

Laban

Social Entrepreneur and Researcher

Skype: labanbagui

<http://www.linkedin.com/in/labanh><http://laban78.wordpress.com>

**Michael Gurstein**

I am asking for the endorsement of the Community Informatics community for a "Civil Society" position re: planning for the President of Brazil's upcoming meeting.



I have been somewhat active in the Civil Society component of the post-WSIS Internet Governance discussions primarily approaching these issues from a CI perspective. In that role I've been active on the Internet Governance Caucus list and the Best Bits initiative and have attended 3 (out of 9) Internet Governance Forums and participated in panels/workshops in various roles in each of these. I have attempted to provide a bridge between Internet Governance activities/discussions and the CI community. I'm applying for a CS nomination rather than an academic nomination as I think I can be more useful for the CI community (and in supporting the success of the Brazil meeting) by taking a more active role in preparing the meeting (and its background) from this vantage point rather than the academic one (which will be more advisory in nature I believe).

For strategic reasons I would ask that the possible endorsement for my candidature be for both the High Level CS position and the ExCom CS position although I would anticipate withdrawing my HL nomination in favour of the likely candidacy of [Louis Pouzin](#) one of the true fathers of the Internet and someone whose occupancy of the HL CS position would be one that would be highly supportive of our Declaration and overall of CI positions.

Best to all and I would be pleased to answer any questions from the Committee as would be useful in your deliberations.

Mike

### **Doug Schuler**

I have been working in this area for over 25 years and it continues to be my main focus. My work has included conference organizing (nine Directions and Implications of Advanced Computing symposia), network development (Founder of Seattle Community Network and current board president, advisory board of Human Smart Cities European project), government advisory (two terms on Seattle's Citizen's Communication and Technology Advisory Board), policy work (long-time CPSR member and former board Chair, current member of USACM, the policy advisory board of the ACM), researcher (open government, e-deliberation, civic intelligence), author, and educator.

I have Masters degrees in computer science (University of Washington) and software engineering (Seattle University).

I worked at Boeing, including most recently at their Advanced Technology Center, for 16 years and at The Evergreen State College, a non-traditional liberal arts college, for 17

years. At Evergreen I'm currently teaching Social Innovation and Civic Intelligence and running the Civic Intelligence Research and Action Laboratory where students working in teams conceive, develop, and conduct their own research and action projects.

Author (or co-author, editor, or co-editor) of eight books, including Participatory Design (1994), New Community Networks (1996), Shaping the Network Society (2004), and Liberating Voices (2008), a "pattern language" project including patterns written by approximately 75 contributors. I've also written dozens of articles and chapters including Public Space in Cyberspace (1995) and Creating the World Citizen Parliament (2013).

I have given presentations in Africa, Asia, North and South America, and Europe over the years on the democratic uses of information technology. I've worked with students and others on issues related to tribal education, migrant rights, and health in low-income communities.

I am particularly interested in civic intelligence, the ability of people to work together to solve their problems effectively and equitably. In relation to our present enterprise I am interested in helping to shape an Internet that helps educate, empower, and facilitate collaboration among communities worldwide. I am hoping to help shift the focus from consumer to one of producer and citizen.

My personal home page is <http://www.scn.org/commnet/doug.html>.

### **Cristian Berrio Zapata**

I am Colombian but live in Brazil. I am psychologist with special studies in technology management, an MA in administration and now, finishing a PhD in information science. I have been with the list since 2003 as my interest is studying the digital divide and the information society effects here in Latin America.

I would like to work as... academic CI nominees for the "1net" Steering Committee.... There a "divide" regarding research, critical analysis, practice and theory, between developed and developing countries and communities. Part comes from a language divide, part from a knowledge gap, part from the indifference in developing territories about CI. My hope is to help closing this divide, stimulating a critical, non-paternalist approach to the area, enhancing the flux of information and knowledge between the parties.

For good or bad my CV is part in English and part in Portuguese...

<http://buscatextual.cnpq.br/buscatextual/visualizacv.do?metodo=apresentar&id=K4351470>  
[T6#ProducoesCientificas cristian.berrio@gmail.com](mailto:cristian.berrio@gmail.com)

**Harleen Kaur**

Greetings,

I'd like to brief you about my interest to serve as a CI Nomcom member for upcoming Global Multistakeholder Meeting/ Committees.

I worked with United Nations University on the UN project assignment which highlights on the public policy issues related to key elements of Internet governance includes sustainability, robustness, security, stability and development of the Internet in the developing countries. Also, facilitate the exchange of information, and make full use of the expertise of the academic, scientific and technical communities.

My involvement with the high level Panel on Global Internet Cooperation and Governance Mechanisms governance as I have introduced and advised all the stakeholders in proposing ways and means to accelerate the availability and affordability of the Internet in the developing world/ international community. My responsibility was to strengthen and enhance the engagement and execution of stakeholders in existing and/or future Internet governance mechanisms, particularly those from developing countries, which is a best practice.

In this way I was appointed and worked on the Regional and national Internet governance (IG) initiatives to create a forum where all stakeholders can air their views and exchange ideas and provides an interactive and collaborative exchange.

Since graduating with a Ph.D. in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and have authored and co-authored no. of books and paper publications in this field. Though I have a good experience at United Nations and a strong academic/ research background in Internet governance and think that I could apply my combination of knowledge and experience to CI community. Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards,

Harleen

Dr. (Ms.) Harleen Kaur

## **Review Criteria**

The following criteria were used by NomCom members in evaluating the nominees.

### **Civil society**

1. Knowledge of and experience with community informatics including current or previous direct engagement with grassroots/marginalized communities
2. Signed the Declaration and prepared to promote the principles of the Declaration
3. Diversity - gender, regionality, area of special focus (e.g. health, economic development etc.)
4. Time availability
5. Willingness to undertake activities designated (with some evidence of previous experience)
6. (for the future) ensuring a degree of rotation

### **Academic/research**

1. Knowledge of and experience with community informatics including direct engagement with grassroots/marginalized communities
2. Signed the Declaration and prepared to promote the principles of the Declaration
3. Diversity - gender, regionality, area of special focus (e.g. health, economic development etc.)
4. Time availability
5. Willingness to undertake activities designated (with some evidence of previous experience)

6. (for the future) ensuring a degree of rotation

7. Evidence of academic accomplishment-publications, academic appointment etc.

## **Results**

The Nominating Committee completed its deliberations and voted for the following candidates:

- Multistakeholder High Level Committee Nominee: Cristian Berrio Zapata
- Executive Multistakeholder Committee Nominee: Michael Gurstein
- 1Net Academic Posts Steering Committee Nominees: Doug Schuler and Cristian Berrio Zapata

## **A Note of Thanks**

I'd like to express my thanks to the candidates who stepped forward and offered to participate in this important endeavor. To my fellow nominating committee members who honored me by allowing me to assist such a well qualified group, likewise a big thanks. Finally, a special thanks to Brian Beaton who provided assistance with connecting with the candidates.

Thomas Lowenhaupt, (non voting) Chair  
January 12, 2014