

Applicant Information

First Name: Sam
Last Name: Lanfranco
Gender: Male
Country of Residence: Canada
Stakeholder Group/Constituency Affiliation: NCSG/NPOC

Questions

1. *Current employer and position. Please describe the type of work you perform:*

I am an economics professor emeritus and senior scholar at York University, Toronto. I am a Director in the Society for the Advancement of Science in Africa (SASA), an advisor to the Ambedkar Centre for Peace and Justice (ACJP) in Mumbai, and a Visiting Professor at Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool Univ (XJLU) in Suzhou, China, in an advising/non-teaching capacity.

2. *Education:*

I have a PhD and a Masters Degree in Economics from the University of California at Berkeley, and a B.A. in economics from Fresno State University (now California State University at Fresno). I have taught culturally diverse students, around the globe, for half a century.

3. *Please identify any GNSO Working Groups and/or chartered teams in which you are participating:*

Now moment my main participation is in the ccWG on new gTLD auction proceeds. I also currently chair the NCSG and NPOC finance committees.

4. *Please describe any past involvement in the ICANN Fellowship Program, if applicable. For example, have you previously been a fellow or served as a program mentor?*

I joined the ICANN stakeholder community through NPOC and NCSG in 2014 well advanced of the point, in terms of knowledge about ICANN, where I should apply as a Fellow. I did speak to one gathering of Fellows at an ICANN session (and was greeted by applause). I have not been a formal Fellows Program mentor. I have and continue to mentor previous Fellows in their primary Internet related work outside ICANN.

5. *Please assess and explain how your knowledge, experience and expertise address the criteria listed below. Leave the response blank if not applicable to you.*

- ***Active participant in GNSO structures and policy development processes with a track record of engagement***
 - Over the past 5 years I have participated in several pdp working groups and from that experience and my work elsewhere I have a good understanding of the mission and vision of ICANN, as well as the operations of its processes and structures.
- ***Previous experience serving as a mentor, teacher, or learning facilitator is a plus***
 - I have served as a mentor for the Mentorship Program of the Canadian Society for International Health (CSIH) where I was also Board Chair.

- Over half a century of teaching and graduate work supervision involving students in North America, Latin America, Europe, Africa, India and China I have developed a strong capacity to mentor and facilitate learning a wide array of settings. I work particularly well across cross cultural boundaries.
 - ***Strong written and verbal communication skills***
 - A long academic career has given me strong written and verbal communications skills, skills which I continue to use of a daily basis.
 - ***Project management and coordination skills***
 - As a Department Chair, School Director, Deputy Director of a research institute, Senior Researcher in research projects, and project and program advisor and manager in various economic and development related activities, my management and coordination skills have been refined (and tested) repeatedly.
 - ***Networking skills***
 - I am particularly strong in networking skills, both at the interpersonal level, and with uses involving the digital venue. From the start of the listserv, way before the World Wide Web, I have run lists with as many as 1500 active participants, built some of the first networked computer labs in Canadian universities, and in Latin America, and probably brought the first modem to China, for connection to North America.
6. ***Please assess and explain how your knowledge, experience & personality meet the desired attributes listed below. Leave the response blank if not applicable to you.***
- ***Member of a GNSO Stakeholder Group and/or Constituency***
 - a. Am a member and have served in positions in the NCSG and NPOC, and served as a temporary replacement on the Council at ICANN66.
 - ***Understanding of the ICANN's mission, structure, and multistakeholder model***
 - a. Substantial understanding here. Was brought into NPOC because of prior multistakeholder experience while working for UN in Geneva
 - ***Willingness to devote the necessary time and resources prior to and during the ICANN meeting***
 - a. If selected as a mentor I can block out the necessary time over the duration of the Mentorship
 - ***Ability to create a supportive atmosphere for mentees by being open, accessible, and approachable***
 - a. Across a wide variety of age groups and cultural backgrounds I have an excellent track record for all three of those attributes.
 - ***Robust network within the ICANN community and ability to leverage and share that network***
 - a. I think I have a wide network within the ICANN community, and a reasonably good reputation (being ICANN there are no doubt detractors!). As a development economist I have been a life-long advocate of networking within constituencies (research, development, etc.) and between constituencies,
 - ***Ability to present information in a manner that is simple and easy to understand***
 - a. I am good at this, although for difficult information, this is a labor-intensive effort.

- ***Ability to establish weekly projects and deliverables for mentees using a clear and consistent learning approach.***
 - a. **As I have learned, this is not always easy given the busy schedules of mentors and mentees, but I commit myself to make things work when I agree to tasks such as this mentoring activity.**

7. *Please explain your interest in serving as a mentor and what you will bring to the Fellowship Program if selected.*

- **I am involved in a lot of organizations where there is a heavy dependence on volunteer work, and I am aware of the challenges to recruiting the right volunteers. The role of non-paid work in ICANN, by ICANN constituencies and stakeholder groups is essential for its work, and for protecting the integrity of ICANN's multistakeholder identity. This makes the Fellows Program doubly important. Fellows should be able to both bring knowledgeable work skills to ICANN and be able to carry away ICANN knowledge to better serve their home communities and constituencies, and the Internet ecosystem in general.**

I have long been a supporter of mentorship and internship programs (Those with integrity. Some programs are exploitive or get exploited).

If selected to participate as a Mentor I will bring my understanding of ICANN, my commitment to the mentoring process, and my labor time to helping advance the interests of ICANN as the sponsor of the program, facilitate learning on the part of mentees, and advance mentee engagement in ICANN.

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