California

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I have been involved with ICANN for the last 7+ years, primarily with the Internationalization of Domain Names (IDN) project. I have been participating in the Consolidated Policy Working Group (CPWG) since 2018, including drafting the ALAC response to the Latin Generation Panel's Proposal regarding use of the Latin script for IDNs.

One of the things that I observed on the IDN project was that At Large involvement was far lower than one would hope. After all, the whole point of IDN is to make domain names available in a variety of scripts and languages *for the users*. Yet, the particular panel that I was on, for example, had two of us who were At Large members, versus 5 (including the Chair) who were employees of Registries or Registrars. This is not to say that the majority of the members did not try to make decisions which would be good for all users. But their day-to-day environment visibly (at least to me) impacted their outlook. Getting more At Large members involved would definitely have improved our output. And, not incidentally, made the panel much more willing to consider making changes to the output document based on public comments from ALAC and from individual ICANN members. I think there may be things ALAC can do to encourage such general participation.

I am interested in helping make the views and interests of the At Large community known across ICANN, and in advocating for those within the organization. In particular, I see two issues that could use more work by ALAC:
1) As suggested above, I think ALAC needs to do more to encourage more At Large members to get more involved in the various working groups which actually do most of the work within ICANN. It is important that ALAC provide comments on the output of those groups. But it is even more important to provide input when the groups are discussing the issues and creating the documents which will become ICANN policy. Greg Shatan's statement talks about recruiting, and I think that ALAC should be

actively involved in spreading news about which recruiting efforts are most successful among all the RALOs.

2) Encouraging the ICANN Board to put their multistakeholder rhetoric into reality. We have heard from Goren and other ICANN officers and Board members about how much At Large is valued, and I'm willing to accept that   But ICANN as an organization? It is hard to justify every other stakeholder group having 2 ICANN Board members, but At Large having only one. Can ALAC convince the other stakeholder Board members to reduce their relative power within the organization? Perhaps not. But I think ALAC needs to keep bringing the asymmetry issue to the Board.

Personally, I started in IT in college, by taking the one and only programming course available at the time. Since then, it's been all short courses and OJT. I have spent 5 decades in IT positions in various companies, and the last 15 working for a company which creates network analysis software.