

Farewell Report of Cheryl Langdon-Orr as the ALAC Liaison to the GNSO - October 27th, 2021.

At around 2130 today at the close of the part 1 GNSO Council meeting for ICANN 72, said my brief goodbye, the 'So long thanks for the fish' moment (Douglas Adams reference google it if confused) and formally introduced my replacement in the role, Justine Chew who has in fact shadowed my activities with Council over the last year.

The role of an ALAC, and originally AT-LARGE, Liaison to the GNSO Council has been in place and was until 2016 ByLaw mandated, since the GNSO was created out of the DNSO (which I was also active in from when ICANN first formed) back in (Oct 2003).

I was originally appointed by the ALAC to the role in 2014 taking over from the long serving Alan Greenberg and joined the Council as Liaison from the ALAC at ICANN 51 in Los Angeles on October 16 serving, all too briefly, through to the end of February 2015 when after a interpretation of the ByLaws was raised regarding my position with an ICANN body (even though an Observer/Liaison) that receives Nominating Committee appointees, and concurrency of my also being with the 2014 Nominating Committee as a non voting Associate Chair; that on full analysis required my resignation until a years break from such service had passed. The ALAC reappointed me on September 10, 2016 and I took my new seat at the Council 'table' during ICANN 57 AGM GNSO Council Part II meeting November 7, in Hyderabad, and have been honoured to have actively served with the GNSO Council continuously since then.

Primarily this role has to be a consistent presence and engaged part of the GNSO Council and to ensure that I had the acceptance and confidence of all parts of Council to ensure my ability to act as a trusted conduit, enquirer and information provider between the GNSO Council and the ALAC / At-Large community, performing I believe to both the letter and the intent of this important and I believe vital role as outlined and described in the ALAC Rules of Procedure.

Highlights for me have included the discourse and engagement with so many committed members of the GNSO Council over the years, I deliberately made a point of seeking out and spending time with all that I could and from these the making of several trusted relationships with characters I am now proud to call 'friend' even when we often have to "agree to disagree" on certain matters... These are trust relationships and I value them deeply.

I also value deeply and shall actually miss the most my work with and trust in the fabulous policy staff and secretariat that support the GNSO so yes I am going to list them here (indulge me ;-) => David, Susie, Marika, Mary, Julie H, Steve, Emily, Caitlan, Ariel, Nathalie, Terri, Julie B and Andrea and several like dearest Glen who moved onto other roles over the years. It has been a true pleasure to watch you as consummate professionals work alongside us all and I sincerely hope our paths may one day cross again.

On a final note of farewell and 'handing on the torch' to Justine I know the role is in excellent hands with her, and I hope when time comes for the next person to step in she will be saying many of the things with the kindness in her heart to so many thankful for the experience.

