

Natalie Knesek - Candidate Statement Of Interest

SECTION A. Identification and Contact Information

Poll Heading: 1a. e-mail address

Lemondrops[at]gvec.net

Poll Heading: 2a. Alternative e-mail address

Tskndk[at]gvec.net

Poll Heading: 3a. Contact telephone number(s) (Must include your country and area code)

Poll Heading: 3b. Contact telephone number(s) (Must include your country and area code)

Poll Heading: 3c. Any other numbers/methods you wish to list

Empty submission

Poll Heading: 4a. Country/countries of citizenship

United States

Poll Heading: 4b. Country/countries of residence

United States

SECTION B. Professional and Educational Background

Poll Heading: 1. Provide details of your current job, role, title, employer and affiliations

Sole Proprietor for the past six and half years of a small candy and gift shop that includes e-commerce. I also adjunct for a local community college and for a state University on occasion. I do not have any current appointments, though.

Poll Heading: 2. Describe your educational and professional history. Provide all information that you believe may be relevant to being an effective member of the ICANN Board

BS - Home Economics with Secondary Teaching Certification - Tarleton State University, Magna Cum Laude 1994

MS - Family and Child Studies, Southwest Texas State University (Texas State) - 2003

Certified in Family and Consumer Sciences since 1995 by the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences

Poll Heading: 3. Describe any current and past volunteer community positions, roles and accomplishments. We are particularly interested in similar Board directorship and committee experience

Founding Board Member of the Gonzales Learning and Career Center -- established to provide educational opportunities for adults in our community to improve their quality of life. Numerous elected positions on the Texas Association of Family and Consumer Sciences Board of Directors including Vice President of Professional Development, Secretary, and Southeast District Chair. Honored by the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences as a New Achiever in 2000.

Service on committees and boards including: Gonzales County 4H Adult Leaders, Crystal Theatre, Gonzales Main Street, Shiner Catholic School grants committee

Poll Heading: 4. List any relevant personal or professional web pages

Empty submission

SECTION C. Internet Involvement and Interest in ICANN

Poll Heading: 1. Describe how you meet the criteria for the At-Large selected ICANN Board Director position

I use the internet daily, not just for my business, but for my personal pleasure, as well. As a parent, I guide my children in their use. I am a self-employed, highly motivated individual who has had the unique opportunity to work in all three sectors (private, public, and non-profit). As a young adult, for five years from 1989 to 1993, I was blessed to have gotten to participate in the American Youth Foundation International Leadership Conference, first as a participant and ultimately as a staff member. This intensive two week conference focused on understanding and working with many cultures. I have carried the knowledge and skills gained from that experience forward over the past two decades to train individuals in cultural diversity, team building, and communication. I have a firm understanding of the world beyond what I know as my everyday and always eager to learn more. With my internet business, though on a shoe string budget and quite small, I have had the opportunity to interact with consumers abroad. As I look at my own web statistics it is nice to see that my site has an international appeal. I worry as a parent how "exposed" my children would be if I opened all the doors to the internet that I use for myself in the social networking sites, search engines, and resources. It is important to me that the identifiers that have been established to indicate validity remain constant on the international level.

Poll Heading: 2. Describe current and past involvement in, contributions to, and leadership roles in activities and organizations involved in the development and operation of the Internet, its naming and addressing infrastructure and/or its security and stability

While I have not had any experience in the infrastructure of the internet, I am intrigued by it. I have had internet in my home since 1994 and have owned an internet business since 2004. I have watched it grow, change, and hit questionable highs and horrible lows. I remember my spouse fearing the internet when we bought our first computer.

Poll Heading: 3. Provide a statement about what you would contribute in the At-Large selected ICANN Board Director position to ICANN and its mission

As an ICANN board member I would serve as a liason to the "everyday" internet user. I do not bring the knowledge of an IT person, but that of someone who is self-taught, learned the hard way, and unafraid to explore. I am an eager learner, willing to research facts to make informed decisions, and genuinely curious about the world as we know it today. As a board member, I would be dedicated to establishing public policy that held a global perspective and created a standard of quality. It would be an honor to serve on the board.

Poll Heading: 4. Provide a statement about what you would contribute in the At-Large selected ICANN Board Director position to the At-Large Community

Communication is one of my greatest strengths. My priority would be to see input from the community and gear my priorities in policy making to those interests not of myself, but of those on a broader spectrum.

Poll Heading: 5. Please describe specifically how and why you will be able to advance, at the ICANN Board, the interests of the At-Large Community and the broader global community of Internet end-users

While some people may be able to say that they have vast experience and that there experience will lead the ICANN Board into the future, I bring fresh air to the table. From the call, what sparked my interest was the interest in someone who could represent the typical consumer. I am that person. I am a new face, someone who truly is just your "common Joe". My greatest strength is an open mind.

Poll Heading: 6. Is there any additional information you would like to submit that would be helpful to the BCEC in making its decision? If so, please summarize it here

I hope that in reviewing applications, those on the decision making panel will take the time to review my vitae.

It will lend an understanding to the depth inwhich I have been involved in organizational management, both in paid positions and as a volunteer. In the community that I live in, people turn to me often for advise on restructuring and renewing involvement in their non-profits. I am so blessed to have had so many wonderful opportunities to grow and learn as a professional and this role would be an excellent opportunity for me to move in another direction.