ICANN Fellowship Program

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What is the Fellowship Program?

- Started in 2007
- Grant to enable eligible individuals from around the world to attend **ICANN Meetings**
- It covers the cost of economy class airfare + hotel + stipend after successful completion of the program to assist to cover some basic expenses incurred by the fellow
- Recipients are expected to actively contribute to ICANN processes and be a part of the next generation of ICANN leadership
- Usually **25** grants are awarded per Meeting

Our Mission

- Capacity building within existing ICANN constituency groups
- Make participants more aware of the current issues affecting the global Internet community
- Create a stronger base of knowledge through outreach in the less developed regions
- Engage fellows to take a more active role in the future of the Internet in their own country, region and globally
- Encourage the alumni to find their own way within the community and become the new voice of experience in the years ahead

Why is it important?

- For the community…
  - increases proactive participation and leadership at ICANN
- For the fellows….
  - Meet influential members of the Internet community, including regional and international leaders
  - First hand training about ICANN and key issues
  - Engage in current Internet policy discussions
  - Ongoing support & networking through the Alumni Program

Who can apply?

- Applicants must be citizens of economically eligible countries
  - We use the World Bank classification of low, lower-middle, and upper-middle economies
- Fellows have to meet specific requirements, such as,
- Fellow are usually are representatives of governments; country code top-level domains (cTLDs); nonprofits; private sector

The application process

- Online application at http://www.icann.org/en/fellowships/
- Applicants must:
  - be citizens of economically eligible countries
  - exhibit certain interest in some aspect of ICANN community and/or Internet work
  - show intent of future involvement
- Independent Selection committee review
- Successful candidates are announced via ICANN website
- It takes approximately 12 weeks from application to selection

The selection process

- Independent Selection Committed composed of 5 individuals, representing the 5 ICANN regions
- Only up to 3 ICANN Meetings
- Fellowships are awarded based on a mix of criteria including applicant experience and references, geographic proximity to meeting, receipt of past fellowships, etc.
- Due to financial limitations ICANN may not be able to provide fellowships for all qualified applicants. In the case of a dispute or similar applications final decisions will be made by the fellowships committee

Statistics to date

Applications received - **1032**

Countries represented - **89**

9 ICANN Meetings funded = **160** fellows

Funded opportunities – **225**

Alumni participation – **104**

Typical Fellowship

- Number of applications received: 140
- Number of applications meeting min. req /number selected to participate: 35/25
- Breakdown by Group
  ➢ccTLD community: 7
  ➢Government : 7
  ➢Civil society: 6
  ➢Private sector: 3
  ➢Academia: 2
- Half of the Fellows have never attended an ICANN meeting
- One-quarter of the Fellows are Alumni mentors

Typical Fellowship Week

- Mandatory morning meetings @ 7:30am
- Other Mandatory Meetings: Welcome Ceremony, Public Forum and Board Meeting
- Suggested attendance at that meeting's hot topics such as New gTLD, DNS abuse, Affirmation of Commitments and the Constituency Day sessions – identified as most relevant depending on class
- Social Events such as the Gala
- Encourage participants to Network, Engage, Exchange, Reach out
- Support from Staff, Alumni and Constituency members

Beyond the Meeting Week

- Choose path in the ICANN community
- ALAC
- gNSO
- ccNSO
- GAC
- NomCom
- Working Groups
- Become ambassadors for the program and ICANN by spreading the word in their office, community, regional gatherings and conferences

- Actively participate in:
- http://www.icann.org/en/public-comment/
- http://blog.icann.org/
- http://public.icann.org
- http://www.icann.org/en/newsletter/

Alumni Growth

- 13 Alumni have gone through the NomCom process
- 10 former or current Fellows are part of SO or AC working groups or committees
- 8 members of the GAC
- 2 serving as vice-chairs
- Contribute to ICANN monthly magazine articles, regional and gov't articles and documents
- Mentoring and Outreach

Alumni Communication Tools

- http://www.facebook.com/group.php?v=app_2373072738&ref=ts&gid=38321594313#!/group.php?v=wall&ref=ts&gid=383215494313
- Blog http://icann-fellow.blogspot.com/
- Alumni Mailing List
- Linked In

Thank You

Questions