
ICANN82 | CF – DNS Women

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MICHELLE DESMYTER

Hello and welcome everyone to the DNS Women's Session. My name is Michelle DeSmyter, and I'm a Remote Participation Manager for this session. Please know that this session is being recorded and governed by the ICANN Expected Standards of Behavior and the ICANN Community Anti-Harassment Policy.

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VANDA SCARTEZINI

Thank you very much. Thank you everyone for coming. And there is place over there, Betty, you can sit or your friend can sit over there. So thank you very much for coming again. I have the pleasure to have some of important people this time, and

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especially someone that is part of the history of the ICANN in this DNS environment. So I will start that just giving as always, first, the floor to Cheryl you for some words, and then we will give the floor to some of Board member that are here. So, appreciate.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR

Vanda, I really appreciate the fact that you always give me part of the beginning of these terrific events. My name's Cheryl Langdon-Orr, and like a few of us when there was, I think, seven around a breakfast table at an ICANN meeting going, this is silly. Why can't more women recognize each other and know what's going on and just smiling at each other, and the corridors was a good thing at that stage.

Today is not our largest turnout, but we are finding competition on the program, but we have everything recorded and we have terrific speakers. And so this can become part of an archive, part of a record. So we may not have a record number of people in the room, but we will have a recording of what goes on. And I'm going to pick on you for a minute, because we don't just have a few important people, everyone, especially the women in the room, are extremely important because you are part of a rare species of women interested in the domain name industry.

And I know that's a subset of a subset of a subset of ICT, but even that, we are still underrepresented. So that's what this group is all about, to build the collegiality, to build friendships, to build the opportunities, and of course, to learn from experience, and that's

what we've got today, really good experience people. Back to you, Vanda.

VANDA SCARTEZINI

Thank you very much. Just remember that we are doing this since 2009 in Sydney event when we face some so few female faces in the environment that we decide to do something to encourage them to come back and sit and share some ideas and be encouraged to participate on this, not only in ICANN, but in the business area of the DNS. So with that, I would like to open the floor for some remarks for our Board members, Maarten, and our special friend that he is a honorary member of DNS Women, he's not only Board member, he's also a Honorary member of DNS Women. So please.

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN

Thank you so much, Vanda, for making me feel so welcome as honorary women. In the early two thousands, I was active in London, and there was still the old gentleman clubs, and I remember a story that apparently it took Margaret Thatcher to be announced honorary man for that day before she could enter and speak. But thank you for that, and well, how did it become an honorary one?

I think I'm just interested and what we need in this environment is to have the clarity and the input from everybody. For me, diversity is a word that brings strength. If we want to serve the world, we need to listen and work with the world and involve the world, and for that matter, to make sure that your voices are heard is crucially

important. So welcome it very, very much and really appreciate the initiative of some of the ladies that make us remind that women are not without power. They get things moving when you put your heart to it.

I'm really very pleased to see also some new faces here. Some faces I've seen before again and again, and some are new, and this is what it's about. Take others on board, pull in, focus on those areas that you're interested and know that, yes, I'm a Board member and they've got me sitting next to Steve's wife as well as also a Board member who just came on the board.

Talk to us whenever you want our ear and we'll know, we'll listen to you, and are interested in engaging with you. So with that, I'm really looking forward to be here as a guest and enjoy the session and look forward to the wise words of my neighbor and others, and your questions. So with that, back to you, Vanda.

VANDA SCARTEZINI

Thank you very much, and always welcome. Even if you leave the Board, your certificate is valid forever.

MAARTEN BOTTERMAM

Thank you so much.

VANDA SCARTEZINI

So you are always welcome. So I'm not seeing the other member of the Board here.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR It's when you turn your head.

VANDA SCARTEZINI Yeah, I'm not seeing another, because this time we have--

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR Will Board members, please identify themselves. Vanda can't see you clearly. Come forward.

VANDA SCARTEZINI Please, please, please.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR That's better. No hiding.

VANDA SCARTEZINI Much better, much better.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR Just hiding business.

VANDA SCARTEZINI Much better, much better. Much better. You cannot be behind over there. Sit please in.

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- CHERYL LANGDON-ORR Yes, see, Charles is doing the right.
- VANDA SCARTEZINI Yeah, some. Please.
- MIRIAM SAPIRO My old friend, Beth Crocker.
- CHERYL LANGDON-ORR Just throw some on it, we'll get it later. That's okay. Grab a seat there.
- VANDA SCARTEZINI Sit there, and please the floor is yours for some words.
- MIRIAM SAPIRO Hi, I am Miriam Sapiro. I was honored to be selected by the NomCom last year, so I joined at the very end of Istanbul. So this is my first official meeting. But over the years, I have learned much about almost every issue, the ICANN world for mentors like Steve Crocker, Vanda, many others here, Beth, of course, whom I walked in with, and we didn't see two seats together, so I really wanted to spend some time with her as well.
- But I'm delighted to be here. I have to say I get to help mentor a lot of people, but there's nothing that gives me more pleasure than mentoring other women because we all know that we are here

because of people that came before us and gave us their advice, their guidance, and their inspiration.

So whether we're in the DNS world or we're elsewhere, helping each other is the only way to go. So I'm excited to be here, grateful for everything all of you have been doing to make our community even better, and I look forward to working with each and every one of you in any way that I can to help. Thank you.

VANDA SCARTEZINI

Thank you. You are always welcome. Please stay always with us each meeting. Thank you, Mirian. Welcome. So let's start our agendas over there. So we have the pleasure to have, this is an honor to have Jake Elizabeth, no, Jake Feinler, I don't know if it's correct, Feinler or Feinler, I don't know, but she can correct me, and Steve Crocker. So Jake will talk between then to allow us to understand more about the WHOIS and the what is come from the beginning till now and beyond. So, Steve, the floor is yours, and please introduce Jake to give her the floor. Thank you.

STEVE CROCKER

Thank you very much, Vanda. I'll do a full introduction of Jake in just a minute, but I'm going to veer off subject for just a minute and indulge in a tiny bit of non-women competition with my friend Maarten. I was an honorary DNS woman before he was.

VANDA SCARTEZINI

No jealousy here.

STEVE CROCKER

And you were chairman before I was. That too. All right. It is a pleasure and a truly historic moment here. So a number of things came together almost as if it had been planned, and the opportunity which we now have here presented itself. So let me share with you. In November of last year, the Computer History Museum in Mountain View, California, inducted Elizabeth Jake Feinler as a fellow.

I was honored to introduce her, and I felt it would also be natural to introduce her here to DNS women. With the cooperation of both the Computer History Museum and ICANN, we augmented her presentation at the Computer History Museum with a subsequent round table that included several of her team from the early days. Now we're going back a long time.

You'll hear more about this. That round table is now available online. Wikipedia tells us that Jake's story is a common tale of distraction and unfulfilled dreams, but not all such tales are sad. Elizabeth Jake Feinler was aiming for a PhD in biochemistry at Purdue University. She took what was intended to be a short break to earn some money at Chemical abstracts in Columbus, Ohio. Her work there was focused on indexing chemical compounds.

The distraction became a career. 1960, she joined SRI's Research Division to help develop the Handbook of Psychopharmacology and the Chemical Processes Academic Handbook. A dozen years later, still at SRI, she told Doug Engelbert he needed to hire her as part of his Augmentation Research Center. Her first task was to

help develop the resource handbook. That was the first demonstration of the ARPANET at the International Computer Communication Conference in 1972.

By two years later, she was the principal investigator helping plan and run the new Network Information Center, or NIC for the ARPANET. What the Wikipedia does not say is that Jake embodied a unique and powerful combination of three attributes. She had, of course, the orientation and skill of a professional information scientist.

And as is evident from her long history of accomplishments, she had a tremendous zeal and energy, less well documented, but enormously important. She embodied a deep set of humanitarian values. In an era where there were few women and minorities in technical fields, Jake was not only uncommon herself, but she also encouraged, mentored, and included women and minorities in her group. Engelbart's project was visionary and groundbreaking.

The mouse was invented right there, and they pioneered online interaction and the use of structured text and links, perhaps the most pervasive technology that we use today. It was thus natural that that project was included in the original set of four ARPANET sites. Now, the ARPANET was a peculiar project. The lower part of the ARPANET, that is the lines and the routers that we would now call the subnet was carefully designed and built. The upper part, what the host computers would say to each other, was left to the users to figure out.

Users in those days were primarily research students and comparable staff. Charlie Klein, Jon Postel, Vince Cerf, and I at UCLA were examples. Bill Deval, Chuck Urby, Jeff Williston, and others at SRI were our counterparts. UC, Santa Barbara, and Utah had similar contributors. Equally unspecified was any sort of organization of contact information, reference notes, et cetera, but Jake was there.

Over the next several years, Jake was at the center of organizing this information and distributing it across the net and keeping it up to date. Her compilation of contact information became the core of what internet users all around the world would come to refer to as WHOIS. More than 50 years later, Jake's seminal work continues to be a core part of the internet infrastructure. Over time, new issues have emerged considering the accuracy of the contact data and who should be allowed to have access to all of this data.

As with many things on the internet, problems like this start out small and become much larger and more complicated in a system that half the world's population uses. I started a project to deal with these issues, and it seemed natural to name it Project Jake in her honor, and it's now my honor to introduce her, and please welcome Jake Feinler.

JAKE FEINLER

Hello, everybody. It's my honor to be able to address the women's group, particularly of ICANN. I've heard about all the things ICANN is doing over the years, and it's very impressive, and I'm very glad that they have a women's group to keep everybody in line. As Steve

has told you, my group had a large activity and naming and addressing in the very early days.

At first, the names, if you can believe it, were just a flat file, and we all kept each other informed. It was very lackadaisical. I am now 94 years old, so I guess that makes me the grand dome of naming. Anyway, we all kept each other informed. There were four sites, when I joined, I think there were 30 sites. It was still pretty easy to keep the host table informed and keep the sites informed.

But then, we got email and we got a lot of sites coming onto the network, and the host table became much more difficult to keep current and to make sure that the sites had all downloaded the current version, and it was a very kind of troublesome kind of file to keep the network going.

Then the NIC also put out a hard copy document called the ARPANET Directory, and it was very popular because it had everybody's email address in it, and everybody wanted to know how they could talk to each other at that time. But the ARPANET Directory itself was growing because there were so many users coming onto the network and it was too expensive to publish as a hard copy document or as a kind of a phone book.

So what we did was we combined the host table and the ARPANET Directory into a server that we called WHOIS, and that's how WHOIS was born. If you said WHOIS person and person's name, you got the information about them, where they were and what their email address was, et cetera, et cetera. If you said, WHOIS host and gave

the name of a host or a computer, you got the host address where they were located, et cetera, et cetera.

So our users were what I call episodic users. They might come to the NIC once a week, they might come once a month, they might come once a year. We didn't know when they would come or what kind of information they would want, but we did know that they didn't want to learn how to use a system when they came to get information from the NIC. So everything we did, we tried to do KISS, KISS, KISS, and I think WHOIS was very KISS Keep it-- what's that?

STEVE CROCKER

Keep It Simple Stupid.

JAKE FEINLER

Keep It Simple Stupid is what KISS stands for. The funding for the naming was interesting in those days. Jon Postel was at SRI when I was there, and we were both members of Engelbart's group, and he had a couple of-- just a couple of names that he called assisted. Was it oh-- I'm blanking. Assisted-

STEVE CROCKER

Augmentation.

JAKE FEINLER

What did Jon and-

STEVE CROCKER

Sorry, I don't know who you're referring to.

JAKE FEINLER

Excuse me, at 94 things slip.

VANDA SCARTEZINI

No problem. Feel free.

JAKE FEINLER

Anyway, Jon and Joyce Reynolds kept their list, and I kept my list, and you put it together to make the host table. Assigned numbers, that's what I'm trying to think of. Jon had, I think one or two assigned numbers at the time, and he was working with the network working group, and so he kept those, and I didn't. And we did the host table at the NIC.

Well, he left SRI in 1977 and joined USC ISI. His funding came from DARPA, mine came from, at that point, came from the Defense Communications Agency. So we had two agencies and two organizations to deal with to get the host table shaped up and shipped out. So that was kind of interesting, it was political as well as it was technical. Finally, the flat file just fell up under its own weight, and it was no longer useful.

It was centrally located, and it was huge at that point. So the decision was made to convert to the DNS system, which is in place now. It was our job to come up with the top level domains, and we

decided that they should be generic and that they should represent the kind of users that were on the network. In my own case, I was worried that DARPA at that point was not a standard body, and I was worried that somewhere in the government somebody would know.

I was hearing from standards bodies, why is DARPA doing this, why is DARPA doing this? Anyway, I was worried that if somebody in the government decided that DARPA should not be a standards body and shift all of that work to someone else, I wanted there to be a standard body behind each top level domain. As it turned out, ISCO was invented and ICANN became the standards for naming and addressing.

So that was a worry that I had that never materialized. But anyway, we worked with Paul Mockapetris and brought up the first iteration of his program GS, as the domain naming system for what was then the internet. ARPANET had become one segment of five, which was the MILLNET or the Defense Native Data Network. When I retired from SRI in 1989, at that point I think that the National Science Foundation was trying to convince Congress that they should have this super network available to everyone.

And actually, Al Gore was somewhat involved in it. By that time I was over at NASA, but the internet went public. It is now used by almost everybody in the world. It brings information to everybody's fingertips. And the naming and addressing has gone crazy. Never, never, never imagined where it would end up

anyway, but we were lucky and fortunate to have a a little part of the history of it.

STEVE CROCKER

Did you want to show the t-shirt?

JAKE FEINLER

I want to say that keeping up with the naming and addressing was in those days, tedious, and of course, women were asked to do the job. Jean North and Johanna Landsbergen and Mary Stahl, Sue Romano Kirkpatrick, Vivian New, and April Marine were some of the women that were involved in keeping the host tables current and up to date.

And there were others that I probably have forgotten. I'm glad to hear that that there's a woman's group at ICANN. We need you. And in my opinion, if you'll let me read this, the internet is at a crossroads. My generation invented it, but your generation has to manage it. It's going to need some rules, it's going to need some ideas to manage it, and right now, as I said before, the internet is at the fingertips-- I'm sorry, the internet brings the information of the world to the fingertips of the users and it connects all of us to each other.

Now, is it going to continue like that or is it going to deteriorate into a cesspool of misinformation and lies and scams and conspiracies and get-rich-quick schemes or will it maintain its integrity? I think the management of it is going to be up to your generation and

ICANN is going to have a big role in that. You've got power and I hope you use it very well. Thank you very much.

STEVE CROCKER

Did you want to show the picture?

JAKE FEINLER

Yeah. Oh, I'd like to show you guys a picture, if you don't mind.

VANDA SCARTEZINI

Oh, please do, please do.

JAKE FEINLER

Can you see it? Okay. That's a shirt that they gave me at the Computer History Museum. And I thought people would be interested in getting a copy.

VANDA SCARTEZINI

Wonderful. Wonderful.

JAKE FEINLER

You can get it there if you like.

VANDA SCARTEZINI

Yeah. Wonderful, wonderful.

STEVE CROCKER

So it's available at the History Museum.

JAKE FEINLER

It's available at the Computer History Museum.

VANDA SCARTEZINI

Okay. If you allow us, we are going to put this in our website, that could be very interesting. Thank you very much for giving us at least a reason to be here. Because this is something that for us that let you know that we are running historic project to recognize all the women that have done your contribution to the internet as they are now. And if you allow us, we are going to have a chance to ask, maybe Dave can do that for us because he's close to you. So interview you for some of our book. Thank you very much for you. And Steve, the floor is yours.

STEVE CROCKER

Thank you. We had planned a video clip. I don't know if we consumed too much time. There's multiple video clips we've chosen, the short one for this setting that has a little bit more history about Jake, and that was produced by the Computer History Museum, or taken from what they produced. Can we roll the clip now?

JAKE FEINLER

Oh, dear.

STEVE CROCKER

Need a soundtrack here. There we go.

JAKE FEINLER

I am Elizabeth Jake Feinler. Everybody wants to know about the Jake, my sister hung it on me when I was born because she couldn't say my name right, so that settles that problem. I joined the internet work by joining Doug Engelbart's Group in 1972. I was already at SRI, and it there were people up there running little things around on a desk and staring at television sets and wearing Birkenstocks and jeans, and nobody did that in those days.

And so I thought they looked interesting. And so one day I asked Doug to hire me. So the first thing we did was a resource handbook. In those days, they thought the network was going to be a resource sharing network, sharing big computers, because you had to go there and get a time on the computer, and that was very time consuming. So if you had a network, you wouldn't have to do that. And then in 74, I believe, I became the principal investigator, and I was that for 17 years, I think.

Something like that. Anyway, so then we were on our own and there was a big funding hiatus. So the first year we had only one person and myself, one and a half people, Hannah Landsberg was borrowed from the library. And then and when we left the network, or I left the network in 89, we were an \$11 million project, which was pretty interesting for women in those days, and I had a lot of good women to help me out.

VIVIAN NEOU

And let me tell you, Jake is a tough, tough woman. And if there was ever anything wrong, I would hear from Jake. So I knew Jake long before I actually joined the NIC. And I was eventually hired at the NIC as the assistant computer operations manager. So that was my introduction to Jake.

JAKE FEINLER

I have a story about Vivian. The guy that was head of the computer systems there was a slough off, he was doing something else. He wanted to start a company or some thing. So Vivian's doing all the work.

I finally told him, I said, pick one or the other, and he decided he would go off and start up the company. So then I wanted to promote Vivian to his job. But I sneaked around, there were three or four computer centers in the institute, they were all man, of course, I sneaked around, found out what all their salaries were. And then I proposed what salary I wanted for Vivian, and everybody's jaw dropped, and I said, well, that's what all the men are getting, so she got it.

VIVIAN NEOU

Thank you, Jake.

JAKE FEINLER

Yeah, of course. That was my biggest triumph fighting the institute.

VIVIAN NEOU

I have some advice that I learned from Jake. And we've touched on a little bit about how Jake's an internet pioneer, but she was also a pioneer in inclusivity. And my career is due to Jake, and the opportunity she gave me, but also the example she set. And I would encourage, especially young women to just say, yes. Just go for it. Don't be that person who says, oh, I don't really know enough. Oh, I'm not sure it's for me because that was me and Jake said, no, go for it. Just go for it. And that's my advice. Do it. Go for it. It may work out, may not, but try it. Don't be afraid.

VANDA SCARTEZINI

I believe it was very inspiring. It was very interesting, and I thank you Steve, for bring that to us, and it took a little time to organize that because it is each one in one place. Jake is not so young, so to manage everything took a lot of time. Before we continue, Leon, don't be shy, please come, come. So the floor is your to address after this historic moment that we shared today. That was very, very interesting.

LEON SANCHEZ

No, thank you, Vanda. Thank you. I'm sorry I came in late. For the first time in years, I think I was late for DNS Women, so sorry for that. And I don't want to take too much of your time. I think it's just impressive what you've achieved. Every time I come to DNS Women, I see more women coming in and also more men supporting, which I think it's just wonderful. And as it says there, youth empowers women, and that's exactly right.

I think that the next generation has a very different approach to many things. And one of them, I think it's gender equality and empowering women, and I think you're doing a great job in continue to inspiring young women and young men to achieve that goal. So keep it coming. And as you know, you have an ally in me. Thank you.

VANDA SCARTEZINI

Thank you very much. So anyone wants to have any questions to use your opportunity to address to Steve or Jake?

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR

It's a golden opportunity.

VANDA SCARTEZINI

Yeah, that's a unique opportunity in your life. So Vivian, Cheryl, you'll have some points?

JAKE FEINLER

I'm sorry, I didn't hear you.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR

Sorry, Jake. It's Cheryl Langdon-Orr here, and it's an outer honor to even be in the same space as you are talking. We are just trying to get a couple of ladies to step forward and take this extraordinary experience that they've just had listening to you and see whether there's something else they can dig into. So come one, girls,

somebody must have a question. Nobody's had the experience like that. Okay, let's go. Eunice.

EUNICE ALEJANDRA PEREZ Thank you. I thank you for giving the microphone and I want to ask
COELLO you some something. What do you think, what is the importance in the academy now for maintaining the internet more secure? The role of the academic.

JAKE FEINLER Could you repeat the question?

VANDA SCARTEZINI Repeat it louder, please.

EUNICE ALEJANDRA PEREZ Okay. I want to know, what do you think about the importance to
COELLO the academia in the internet to maintain the internet secure and stable?

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR So Jake, Cheryl here, she's asking, what is the potential role of academia in the current state and continuing to have a good state of stability and security on the internet?

JAKE FEINLER Well, I think academia can certainly lead the group, and demanding that the internet be free and open and accessible. But I think it's

going to take all of us to do that. There has to be a groundswell of people that say, this is our internet, it's not your internet or somebody else's internet, and we don't want it to be contaminated. So what's going to have to happen are reasonable rules, reasonable procedures.

And I know we have the first amendment and all that, but it can be structured so that it protects the internet or it can be wide open and ruin the internet. So my challenge to all of you that are coming after me is to find how to manage it so it belongs to all of us, the whole world. The whole world uses it, the whole world needs it, it's one of the most important things that's ever been invented, and we need to protect it.

If there are those that want to take it over and ruin it or use it to their own advantage, we need to be the ones that step up and say, uh-uh, you're not going to do that, it's ours, it belongs to all of us. And I think universities have a very big role in setting that tone and in working with their students and with their faculties to come up with ways that they can manage the internet so that it's open and free to all, as it has been for many years. But we're at a crossroads now in my opinion, and it's up to your generation to figure out what to do.

VANDA SCARTEZINI

Okay. Thank you very much. So we have a lot of questions. We need to watch the time and give her some opportunities to rest. We can see who is.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR Whoever's in the corner, just go ahead because we can't see you where we are.

ROLLA HAMZA Thank you. This is Rolla Hamza for the records. It is amazing and inspiring for all women how is your journey, and my question is what is the challenges and how do you face it, especially that back days? there is no support for women. So how are the challenges and how do you face it? Thank you.

JAKE FEINLER I'm sorry I'm very hard of hearing.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR That's all right. Jake, I'm loud of voice, so we'll sort this out. And the question was knowing the challenges that were unique to you as a pioneer, that you might have some suggestions for this younger generation. So how did you meet some of the challenges of being a woman in that particular environment at that time?

JAKE FEINLER Oh, well, the name Jake helped some, but people used to say, are you a person or are you a couple? But anyway, to get serious. I always felt that women sort of sit back and didn't make themselves known. So I would tell the women that worked for me and women in general, ask for what you want. If you want something, ask for it.

Or as April said, go for it. You may not get it, but you might, and if you do, then you're ahead of the game.

So that would be one thing I would say to women in general is that they tend to sit back and wait till things happen to them instead of going after it. I think that's changing though, I think women are getting to be much more included. I don't know if that's true for salaries, but at least they are being included as being someone to listen to and someone to do equal amounts of work. That wasn't true in my day, women got to do the scut work, so to speak.

And then as far as, I think you have to know your information sources too if you want to be in a certain kind of effort, you want to do some kind of science or something, you have to know who's funding it, you have to know who's supporting it, you have to know what kind of money is involved in that. Is it a grant? Is it a contract? You have to know a lot about government contracting if you're going to be involved in scientific research because either they have a lot to say about it or they have a lot to make the funding available, or they have registered people that are going to do the work.

Anyway, you have to have the information to know where you want to go. If you want to go in a certain direction, find out what that's all about, find out whether you like it, find out whether it pays what you want to get paid. Those are the kind of things I think women don't do. They think things will kind of happen. They don't happen, you have to make them happen. Other than that, I think just get a good education, that's important for all women, and I

would hope that in some of the areas around the world where women's education is not celebrated, that that would change.

And anything that all of us can do to make women educationally as equal as men, I think would be a good thing. Those are some of the things. When I was coming up, I always asked for what I wanted, and I didn't always get it, but I didn't feel like it was a disaster. It was just a different turn.

And I think women often feel like they don't deserve things. Well, they do, they're just as equal and prominent and educated and thoughtful and resourceful as men are, and they need to keep that in mind at all times, in my opinion. I guess that's about all.

VANDA SCARTEZINI

Thank you. Thank you, Jake. We don't have time for more questions, but I promise you if you want to have some response from Jake, you can send to me, I can address to her, and you got the feedback from her, because we have an agenda, we need to conclude our agenda, so it is my pleasure to give the floor to Luisa.

JAKE FEINLER

Excuse me, could I make one more?

VANDA SCARTEZINI

Yes, go ahead.

JAKE FEINLER

When I retired, I had 400 boxes of archives from the internet, they were from the NIC too, but mostly from the internet. So if anybody's doing research on the internet, I would refer them to the Computer History Museum where I donated all of these archives. Thank you.

VANDA SCARTEZINI

Thank you. Thank you.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR

Thank you. It's literally not working this time. It's not bad.

VANDA SCARTEZINI

Wow. Wow. Wow.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR

There you go. Turn yours off.

LUISA RIBEIRO

I think it's working now. Well, I'm so proud to have the opportunity to speak after Jake Feinler. What an inspiring woman. Wow. Thanks so much, Jake, for your work, and thank you so much for having me here today to talk about this importance and vibrant new project in center and in our Google DNS Women Community.

First, I want to thank Carla, Cheryl, and my sweet friend Vanda for accept and embrace this challenge. And I also want to thank to my fellow center Board members and to Peter here, the center general

director for believing in and supporting this initiative from the first beginning. And finally, because all the great projects are teamwork, I want to thank Andrea Kota from Center Support Team for accepting the challenge and being with me in this process.

Andre is in fact, the driving force behind this initiative. Hope you all can know her in the next ICANN meeting in Prague. Many of you already know me, but still let me introduce myself. I'm Luisa Ribeiro, I'm the chair of the Board of .pt, the registry from Portugal. Regarding this presentation, I'm also a member of the Strategic Consult for the Global Women in Tech organization, and I'm also ambassador of the Portuguese Government Initiative Women in STEM, Science, Technology, Engineer, and Maths, and since the last year, I'm also member of the Center Board of Director.

Aside all these roles, and probably because of them, I truly believe that the internet and the digital world must have a purpose, and that purpose should be centered around people, around all people, regardless of their characteristics, including gender. That's why I'm here to share with you a presentation about the group we had created with all Center members, the European DNS Women. Next slide, please. Yes. This group intend to be the European chapter of global DNS Women.

Found in 2019, DNS Women is the first organization dedicated to promoting and empowering women in the DNS industry. DNS Women is a vibrant community, as we can see, composed of over 500 influential women and also men across the globe. The community embrace diversity in job roles, areas of expertise,

geographical representation, and sector involvement. Next slide, please. As we all know, Center is the association of European Country Code Top Level Domain Registries.

Our members represent inclusive societies where gender equality is a right in the daily challenge. Achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls is one of the key sustainable development goals recognized by the UN, the SDG5. Gender equality is not a fundamental human right, but also essential for fostering a peaceful, prosperous, and sustainable world. We haven't reached this goal yet, and we are still very far from it. In 2023, women represent only 18.9% of ICT specialists in Europe.

While they hold 40% of high-skill occupations globally, their presence in ICT remains minimal. The European program, Digital Decades 2030, aims to create a human centered sustainable and prosperous digital future. Its targets for 2030 include: increasing the number of ICT specialists to 20 million with a focus on gender parity. With this framework, all the conditions are met for us as the center community to also contribute to that. However, everything can change suddenly. We know that we are living in the difficult times, and because of this, now, more than ever, these initiatives and this work are needed.

Next slide, please. While we've made strides in increasing the overall numbers of women working in registries, we are facing a significant challenge when it comes to the representation in critical sectors and leadership positions. Our data, as you can see, reviews

a concerning trend that requires our immediate intention and action.

The data we've gathered shows that despite a considerable number of women employed in registries, there is a huge under representation in three crucial areas, ICT roles, innovation departments, and cybersecurity teams. Furthermore, this disparity extends to leadership positions where women are so few. Next slide, please. Inspiring by this Google community of which we have been a part for several years, and considering our reality in data, we created the EU DNS Women in 2024.

We chose the following main objectives, networking between all the members in Europe, but also in this global community. Mentorship: program that we launched at the beginning of this year, which has already five mentorships, with five mentors and five mentees from various countries, and that will allow for the exchange of experience. Capacity building offer workshops and professional development opportunities to enhance skills and confidence.

And advocacy: together we can inspire girls young women to pursue careers in business and technology, including the Vital DNS industry. Next slide, please. To achieve these objectives, we are holding meetings in heavens. We have already set up five mentorships, and we intend to launch campaigns to attract more women to the digital space and of course, to DNS industry. Next slide, please.

So what we had already done, we had a logo inspired in this great community, the Google DNS Women, and our center logo and colors. Next slide, please. There is now a dedicated EU DNS Women page on the project tab of the Center website, as you can see, me and Andrea Kosner. Next slide, please. And of course, we have this presentation to show our work in several meetings like we are doing here. Next slide, please.

What will be our next steps? Gather more members, you are invited to join us, show our work and our great achievement for this year, receive the European Chapter Diploma by you at ICANN83 in Prague in June of this year. So let's work together and let's work for same purpose. Thank you so much.

VANDA SCARTEZINI

Thank you very much, first of all, to bring that.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR

Hello. I'll leave mine on and we'll see how we go. Keep going. You just talk.

VANDA SCARTEZINI

Yeah, okay. So first of all, to brought this to us last year, and we start to discuss this last year, Istanbul. And you have accomplished a lot of things that from that time so short time. So we are from the same kind of heritage, she is from Portugal, I'm from Brazil, so we can have this bond in the way we do things. So thank you very much, and we will continue to work together.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR Looking forward to Prague.

VANDA SCARTEZINI Yeah. And Prague, we are going to have been together again. So thank you very much and appreciate you bring here. No, not yet. We have Dana, a younger woman now. Dana, are you there?

DANA CRAMER I am, yes.

VANDA SCARTEZINI Yeah, so some young face. So for this historic moment, we need to compensate a little bit with a young face. So Dan, the floor is yours.

DANA CRAMER Wonderful. Thank you. So hello everyone. My name is Dana Cramer. I am sorry I could not be with you in person. However, due to a timing conflict for my PhD studies, I had to refrain from physically participating at ICANN82. I would like to thank the organizers and technical staff for allowing me to speak here today in a virtual capacity. My talk today is focused on how empowering youth in internet governance also empowers women.

It is of course, not easy to follow on such wonderful panelists before me, but I will try. The reason I am presenting this topic is because we oftentimes do not treat youth as a distinct stakeholder, instead, as early career in other stakeholder groups. I am challenging this

conception and arguing for the importance of youth to be recognized as a stakeholder group in internet governance.

Internet governance is becoming more prominent with the passage of the global digital compact along with this year's world summit on the Information Society 20-year review or WSIS+20, we have an opportunity to rethink who is recognized in internet governance. The internet community is comprised of various stakeholder groups. Since 2019 and a bit before that too, youth have been fighting diligently to be a recognized stakeholder group.

But even without received recognition, youth have developed meta participation strategies such as advocating for the youth track at the IGF, creating Youth IGFs or Internet Governance Forums at their national and regional levels, and finding other ways to participate in internet governance where they can share their distinct views on key topics. With the multi-stakeholder model's emphasis on a bottom up approach, it becomes questionable as to why the bottom up stakeholder identity of youth have not been broadly recognized.

Youth are a diverse group, there is no set definition of what entails youth, but the UN broadly outlines as 18 to 35 years old. In my home country, Canada, youth are defined as 18 to 30 because a young person can vote at 18, but constitutionally, they cannot participate in the full democratic process until they are 30, where they might have the opportunity to be appointed as a senator by the sitting prime minister.

As we can see from this example, youth are a broad category coming from various regions with those regions defining their youthfulness differently, and would have different experiences based on areas like post-secondary fulfillment, degree specializations, and early career opportunities for instance. Empowering youth by allowing their meta participation in internet governance does not just help these youth have their voice in internet governance venues.

Empowering youth also empowers women. Research suggests that young women are more likely to volunteer than their young men counterparts, especially in administrative volunteering such as what is needed in multi-stakeholder internet governance. Young men are more likely to volunteer in sports.

Additionally, by empowering young women to take part in areas of internet governance, we hit a sweet spot of women's empowerment where young women might not have children yet, thereby still exploring the workforce, building their professional connections and professional identities.

This is incredibly beneficial to empower women as even after having children, by having that professional identity, it has shown that women will be more likely to return to work. Therefore, if we want enhanced gender representation at spaces like ICANN, it is strategic to empower youth, especially young women. There are concrete recommendations for empowering youth. These include creating spaces and internet governance specifically for youth. For example, what about a youth advisory committee in ICANN?

Should there also be awards in the fellowship program for young women to help their recruitment? What I hope you take from this short presentation is the importance of youth empowerment, both for the youth of the day and the women who will stem from this empowerment for years to come. Thank you.

VANDA SCARTEZINI

Thank you, Dana. Very inspired for the young ones. So we don't have much time, so we need-

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR

We have no time.

VANDA SCARTEZINI

No time, yes. But that was so inspired, this session. Thank you very much for everyone. And please, let's go together to get a picture for this opportunity to get together once more. So let's ask our photographer where you want us to be.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR

If you want to get in a picture, come and gather around us. Vanda and I are apparently the nucleus and you are all the electrons. Let's move over there.

VANDA SCARTEZINI

Come over.

CHERYL LANGDON-ORR

Oh, sorry. I can get rid of it.

VANDA SCARTEZINI

No, they come on here. Come over, come over. We're not excluding men.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]