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At-Large Advisory Committee
ICANN

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I wish to be considered for the Accountancy and Transparency review team, representing the At-Large Advisory Committee. As is apparent from my background, I would bring a strong and relevant set of skills and experience to the process.

Due to ICANN's unusual quasi-public structure and limited formal authority, Accountancy and Transparency are essential for ICANN to function effectively, and ICANN has a stated commitment to them. But ICANN's complex processes and structure often have made it unclear whether ICANN has operated with the level of Accountancy and Transparency that it can and should. To the extent that ICANN fails to be as Accountable and Transparent as it should be, stakeholders and other members of the Internet community needlessly distrust its intentions and actions.

My interest in Internet technology and Internet users dates back to the early 1990s, when I wrote the first edition of *The Internet for Dummies*. Now in its 12th edition, it remains the premier introductory book for non-technical Internet users. In 1996, as part of the International Ad-Hoc Committee (IAHC) on Internet governance, I believe I was the first to propose the registry/registrar split which has since become the cornerstone of competitive domain provision. From 2005 to 2007 I was a member of the ALAC representing North America, which gave me the opportunity to attend many ICANN meetings on behalf of individual Internet users and become familiar with the way that ICANN operates. Since then, as the president of one of the member organizations of the NARALO (CAUCE North America) I've remained involved in the ALAC, and a frequent commenter on ICANN on my blog at <http://jl.ly>.

For ten years, I was a member of my village's elected board of trustees, including three years as mayor. During that time we successfully undertook a variety of administrative and physical projects, including new and revised land use laws, and a major facelift to our historic downtown including new sidewalks, streetlights, and amenities such as benches and playgrounds, funded by a combination of grants and municipal bonds. We installed a new 250,000 gallon water tower, and on my initiative we passed a carefully crafted radio tower ordinance that has ensured that mobile phone base stations are clustered on top of the water tower rather than on multiple unsightly masts. I believe this demonstrates my ability to work in a team with multiple people with differing goals and accomplish results in projects with complex technical requirements.

As an undergraduate I majored in mathematical economics and computer science, which helped me learn analytical skills, which were further developed when I earned my PhD and subsequently in three computer software startups.

I look forward to hearing from you, and would be happy to answer any remaining questions.

Sincerely,

John R. Levine