



Internet2 Governance

www.internet2.edu/governance

Need More Information?

For more information about Internet2 Governance, Board and Council service, or the elections process, contact elections@internet2.edu.

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At a Glance:

[Board of Trustees](#)

[Governance & Nominations Committee](#)

[Architecture & Operations Advisory Council](#)

[Applications, Middleware & Services Advisory Council](#)

[Research Advisory Council](#)

[External Relations Advisory Council](#)

Member focused. Member led.

Internet2 is governed by members who are selected by members. Internet2 governance represents a broad array of constituencies: university presidents, chancellors, CIOs, industry and regional networking representatives, and researchers from the networking and discipline communities.

The service of these community leaders on the Board of Trustees and Advisory Councils is fundamental to the member-driven principles of Internet2. Their expertise and leadership set the course for Internet2's broad range of activities, and ensures that Internet2's advanced networking technologies meet the needs of U.S. research and higher education.

The Board of Trustees

The **Board of Trustees** provides strategic direction, leadership and oversight for Internet2. In 2006, the Board created the Internet2 Governance and Nominations Committee (GNC) to provide recommendations on improving governance. The GNC proposed a new board structure to better represent the diverse membership of Internet2, and the Board approved and implemented those recommendations.

In addition to providing seats for university presidents, the Board now includes representation from chief information officers, network researchers, discipline researchers, and industry partners.

Advisory Councils

Along with the new board structure, the GNC also recommended the creation of four **Advisory Councils** to provide strategic guidance, assist in setting organizational priorities, and ensure that Internet2 continues to meet the needs of the research and education community which it serves.

Architecture & Operations Advisory Council (AOAC): Advises the Board on matters relating to the architecture, operations, and policies of the Internet2 Network, including regional and international connectivity.

Applications, Middleware & Services Advisory Council (AMSAC): Advises the Board on matters relating to the support of applications, middleware, security and other capabilities across Internet2 members and collaborators.

Research Advisory Council (RAC): Advises the Board on matters relating to Internet2's support for research, both network-focused research and disciplinary research, that makes use of the network as a tool.

External Relations Advisory Council (ERAC): Advises the Board on matters of policy, standards, and strategies in the context of industry, government, and international relations.

Nominations and Election Process

The nominations and election process begins with an open call for nominations. All members of the community are invited to submit names for consideration. Nominees for the constituency-based seats must be from an Internet2 member organization.

2008-2009 Elections Timeline

12/2008: Call for Nominations

1/2009: Ballot finalized

2/2009: Ballot distribution and voting

3/2009: Results Announced

4/2009: New members seated at Spring Member Meeting

12/2009: Call for Nominations

The GNC then assembles the ballot with representatives from each membership constituency (CIO, network research, discipline research, industry).

For Board elections, the president or chancellor of the university, or designated constituency representative from Internet2 Member organizations or institutions in good standing, will be the persons who cast the vote on behalf of that organization. For Advisory Council elections, voting is restricted to only those eligible to vote for the various constituencies, as defined by membership type.

Elections are managed by the GNC and the results are verified by an independent auditor.

Service Expectations and Responsibilities

Once elected to serve on the Internet2 Board or on an Advisory Council, there are several service expectations and responsibilities.

Councils hold in-person meetings 2-3 times a year, two of which are held in conjunction with Internet2 Member Meetings. In addition to the in-person meetings, councils conduct teleconferences on a regular basis.

Board and council members are expected to:

- Regularly attend meetings/sessions
- Review meeting minutes
- Accept and complete action items in a timely manner
- Participate in email list discussions

Currently, Internet2 covers all reasonable travel, lodging and meal expenses for in-person meetings requiring council member attendance. Member Meeting registration is also covered.

Through the roll out of the Strategic Plan and the 2009 budget process, Internet2 staff will be working with the Council's Budget Committee, the Councils, and the Board Finance Committee to propose a budget for Board and Council meetings for the 2009 fiscal year.

Recent Accomplishments of the Internet2 Board and Advisory Councils:

- Revision of governance structure
- Introduction of new open elections process
- Creation and adoption of the Internet2 Strategic Plan
- Formation of Advisory Council Budget Committee

Current Focus:

The current focus of Internet2 governance is the implementation of the Strategic Plan.

The Strategic Planning and Execution Committee (SPEC), composed of chairs and vice-chairs of the Advisory Councils and the GNC, along with additional Board appointees, has developed a lightweight framework for plan implementation.

Each Internet2 Council has been linked to tasks in the strategic plan, and is actively engaging working groups, special interest groups and advisory groups as the implementation process begins.