

## ARIN 2016 ELECTIONS REPORT

### Overview:

In 2016 ARIN staff facilitated the annual elections for the following open seats:

- Two seats on the ARIN Board of Trustees
- Six seats on the ARIN Advisory Council (AC) (Note: One seat was to fill a one-year term left open by Kevin Blumberg who was appointed to serve on the NRO NC)
- One seat on the Number Resource Organization Number Council (NRO NC)

### 2016 ARIN Voters:

Seventy-four percent of ARIN Member organizations were eligible to vote in 2016 elections. This is a decrease from the ninety-one percent who were eligible in 2015. However, the decrease in eligible voters this year was expected since this was the first year it was mandatory that a Voting Contact Point of Contact (POC) also have an ARIN Online account in order to cast a ballot. Prior to the voter eligibility cutoff date, staff made every effort to reach out to eligible Voting Contact POCs that didn't have an ARIN Online account and organizations that didn't have a designated Voting Contact POC to request their record be updated immediately.

### 2016 Election Results:

- 5,377 ARIN Member organizations as of 6 September 2016 (the voter eligibility cut-off date)
- 3,975 ARIN Member organizations eligible to vote\* as of 6 September 2016
- 583 voters on behalf of 728 unique member organizations cast a ballot in the ARIN Board of Trustees election
- 576 voters on behalf of 721 unique member organizations cast a ballot in the ARIN Advisory Council election
- 68 NANOG and ARIN meeting attendees voted in the NRO NC election

### Election Participation History:

Election Year	Number of Eligible Voters	Percentage Voted for the Board of Trustees	Percentage Voted for the Advisory Council
2016	3,975	15.9%	15.7%
2015	4,743	12.7%	12.5%
2014	4,136	13.4%	13.5%
2013	3,871	15.8%	15.3%
2012	3,735	10.3%	10.5%

### **Election Costs:**

- Voter Guides (Printing) plus International and National Mailing: \$9,821.78
- BigPulse Software: \$4,750.00
- Temporary Staff (five) to assist with Election Calls: \$3,871.55
- Election Calling Lunches: \$1,562.01
- Gift Certificates/Spot Bonuses for Staff Callers: \$150/\$2,531.22

**Total:** \$22,686.56

### **Experience Report and Community Feedback:**

- No issues were reported or received pertaining to the nomination process or the submission of Statements of Support.
- Staff and temporary callers reported the majority of people they spoke with said “thank you” for the reminder call, including thanking ARIN for its ongoing work.
- Staff did receive one email from a Voting Contact who commented they didn’t see the Vote Now link on their dashboard, but later emailed to apologize and say it was user error.
- Staff did receive approximately two to three inquiries from ineligible Voting Contacts (had overdue invoices on the day of the eligibility deadline) that received the “Vote Now” message on their ARIN Online account dashboard. Once they clicked on the “Vote Now” link they received an error message. Staff notified engineering of the issue and a new story has been written to address the issue. Note, once it was explained to ineligible voting contacts why they weren’t able to vote there were no issues.
- One Voting Contact complimented ARIN staff in-person on their outreach and communication efforts surrounding participating in ARIN Elections; they stated of all of the organizations they are involved in that ARIN should serve as a case study for other organizations.

### **2017 Election Preparation:**

- Implement a new election software program that provides an improved internal/external user experience, updated/customizable platform, integration with ARIN Online, customizable reporting, and strong customer service interface.
- Communication effort to explain to member organizations and current Voting Contacts the decision to permanently do away with Voting Contact POCs and the requirement that all Voting Contacts must have an ARIN Online account to be eligible to vote in ARIN Elections. Communications will include how, under the new structure, to remove/add Voting Contacts.
- Work with engineering to migrate all Voting Contact POCs with a valid ARIN Online account as the Voting Contact under the new structure.

- Staff will continue individual outreach to member organizations requesting Voting Contact information be updated.
- Create a new election video explaining the importance of voting, including steps for updating and/or designating a Voting Contact.

**Staff Recommendations:**

1. Limit the number of words allowed for Statements of Support (SOS) to minimize the lengthiness of endorsements.
2. Seek involvement from the community to support election participation. This may include collecting testimonials on the value of voting, an election participation survey, or request for suggestions on leveraging participation.
3. Creation of new marketing materials to distribute at various ARIN meetings to generate awareness about, support of, and involvement in ARIN Elections. This may include an ARIN Election Fast Fact Sheet, I Voted sticker, Get Out and Vote video.