Internet Engineering Task Force
Newcomers’ Overview

November 2019
Welcome to the IETF!
This is a reminder of IETF policies in effect on various topics such as patents or code of conduct. It is only meant to point you in the right direction. Exceptions may apply. The IETF's patent policy and the definition of an IETF "contribution" and "participation" are set forth in BCP 79; please read it carefully.

As a reminder:
• By participating in the IETF, you agree to follow IETF processes and policies.
• If you are aware that any IETF contribution is covered by patents or patent applications that are owned or controlled by you or your sponsor, you must disclose that fact, or not participate in the discussion.
• As a participant in or attendee to any IETF activity you acknowledge that written, audio, video, and photographic records of meetings may be made public.
• Personal information that you provide to IETF will be handled in accordance with the IETF Privacy Statement.
• As a participant or attendee, you agree to work respectfully with other participants; please contact the ombudsteam (https://www.ietf.org/contact/ombudsteam) if you have questions or concerns about this.
Definitive information is in the documents listed below and other IETF BCPs. For advice, please talk to WG chairs or ADs:

- BCP 9 (Internet Standards Process)
- BCP 25 (Working Group processes)
- BCP 25 (Anti-Harassment Procedures)
- BCP 54 (Code of Conduct)
- BCP 78 (Copyright)
- BCP 79 (Patents, Participation)
- Privacy Policy
Newcomer Activities @ IETF 106
https://www.ietf.org/how/meetings/106/newcomers

- Newcomer’s tutorial (12:30 – 13:30, Sunday, 17 November)
- IETF Quick Connections (16:00 - 17:00 Sunday, 17 November)
  - Short one-on-one conversations with experienced IETFers
- IETF Guides Mentoring
- Newcomer’s Dinner (18:30 - 20:00, Monday, 18 November)
- Newcomers Feedback session (08:00 – 09:00, Thursday, 21 November)
Scope: Preparing for an IETF Meeting
https://www.ietf.org/about/participate/

This presentation includes:
- Information immediately useful to you as you attend your first(ish) IETF meetings
- Strategies to make the most of the meeting (whether in person or remote)

This presentation does **not** include information about:
- The history of the IETF; How to write a “standard”; and many other things...

The IETF YouTube channel has a playlist with information about all these topics (and more)
The IETF and Related Organizations
IETF Mission
https://www.ietf.org/about/mission/

The mission of the IETF is to make the Internet work better by producing high quality, relevant technical documents that influence the way people design, use, and manage the Internet.

[RFC_3935]
The IETF is ...

- A Standards Development Organization (SDO)
- With self-selected individual participants, no formal membership
- No formal voting (but we do hum...)
- No formal government role
- Driven by market-based adoption (a real standard is one people use)
- Focused on Internet technologies
- Bottom-up... and unique!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IETF Areas</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applications and Real-Time (ART)</td>
<td>• Application protocols and architectures&lt;br&gt; • Real-time (communication) and non-real-time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport (TSV)</td>
<td>• Mechanisms related to data transport on the Internet&lt;br&gt; - Includes congestion control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Routing (RTG)</td>
<td>• Routing and signaling protocols</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet (INT)</td>
<td>• IPv4/IPv6, DNS, DHCP, mobility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operations and Management (OPS)</td>
<td>• Network management&lt;br&gt; • Operations: IPv6, DNS, security, routing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security (SEC)</td>
<td>• Security protocols and mechanisms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General (GEN)</td>
<td>• Activities focused on supporting and updating IETF processes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The IETF and Consensus

- IETF mantra:
  - “We reject kings, presidents and voting. We believe in rough consensus and running code.”
- Rough consensus is achieved when all issues are addressed, but not necessarily accommodated
- Dissenting opinions are heard, but are not controlling
- Humming: a way of measuring consensus that is not voting
- Session chair is responsible for building consensus
- WG mailing list consensus has to be taken into account
- “On Consensus and Humming in the IETF”, P. Resnick, [RFC 7282]
IETF Culture

Passionate, smart, vocal people

Informal dress code (people LOVE t-shirts)

Technical excellence is highly valued

Close working relationships (people know each other)
Alphabet soup

- **IESG -- Internet Engineering Steering Group**
  - Areas and Working Groups here!

- **IRTF -- Internet Research Task Force**
  - Research Groups here!

- **IAB -- Internet Architecture Board**

- **IETF LLC -- IETF Administration LLC**
Who does what?

- **IESG**: responsible for technical management of IETF activities and the Internet standards process
- **IRTF**: a parallel organization focused on longer-term research topics for the Internet
- **IAB**: provides oversight of the Internet architecture and the standards process
- **IETF LLC**: provides the corporate legal home for the IETF, the IAB, and the IRTF; provides fiscal and administrative support
IETF Week in a Nutshell
The IETF Meeting week

- Organized events on the agenda include:
  - Working Group sessions: ~130 working groups (~80 meeting)
  - Birds of a Feather sessions (BOFs)
  - IRTF sessions: ~ 15 research groups (some subset meeting)
  - Area-wide sessions, IETF-wide plenary(s), invited lunch talks
  - Hackathons and Code Sprints
  - Social Events
  - Tutorials, Deep Dives & Lunch Sessions
  - Hot RFC Lightning Talks
  - Side Meetings, Open Time
Activities not on the agenda include:

- Hallway meetings
- Many Bar BOFs
- Marathon Editing Sessions

We have an App (IETFers)!

The Agenda is your friend!

https://datatracker.ietf.org/meeting/106/agenda
Working Group sessions

- Biggest part of an IETF week
- Most work is done on mailing lists in between meetings
- Face-to-face meetings mostly focused on solving key issues
- Sessions are streamed & recorded
- Charter (including milestones) is negotiated with area director
Birds-of-a-Feather (BOF) sessions

- Often precedes formation of a WG
- Usually includes discussion of a proposed WG charter
- Sometimes a one-shot for a timely topic
- Proposed by a group interested in a topic
- Approved by ADs
- Generally meet only once
IRTF Research Group sessions

- Officially an activity of the IAB
- Focused more on research versus engineering topics
- IRTF RGs often meet at IETF meetings
- IRTF meetings at the IETF are open to all IETF attendees

Useful reference on the IRTF: RFC 7418 “An IRTF Primer for IETF Participants”

https://www.rfc-editor.org/rfc/rfc7418.txt
ANRW @ IETF 105

- Academic workshop
  - Forum for researchers, vendors, network operators, and the Internet standards community to discuss emerging results in applied networking research
- Monday @ IETF 105
- Program online: https://irtf.org/anrw/2019/program.html
- Separate (no cost) registration for IETF 105 attendees (https://irtf.org/anrw/2019/attend.html)
Area-wide Sessions, Plenaries, and invited lunch talks
Hackathons and Code Sprints
Networking and Social Events
But wait... there is more...

- Side meetings, open time (ongoing agenda experiment)
  - [https://www.ietf.org/how/meetings/106/side-meetings/](https://www.ietf.org/how/meetings/106/side-meetings/)
- Tutorials (Sunday afternoon) and Deep Dives (Tuesday morning)
- HotRFC Lightning Talks (Sunday evening 6 pm - 8 pm)
General Meeting Etiquette

- Read documents of interest before WG sessions
- Behave respectfully and tolerantly towards all participants
- Talk (and listen) to people
- Enjoy yourself
- Remember to sleep!
Bringing New Work to the IETF

- Develop some collaborators with similar interest
- Write some initial drafts, maybe have some Bar BoFs
- Talk to Area Directors in the relevant area (maybe DISPATCH)
- Propose a BoF (drafts, charter, agenda all needed)
- Hold the BoF (Consensus determines the next steps)
- But first... Check out ... Tutorial on Bringing New Work to the IETF:
  - video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YnK3rsZG4Ec
IETF Session Etiquette

- Speak directly into the microphone
- Say your name every time you speak at the microphone
- Sign the “blue sheets” which provide a record of who is in the room (remote participants recorded as well)
- Technical comments & questions are welcome
- Use the WG Jabber channel to discuss meeting-relevant topics
The Resources

- People
- Information
- Tools
Key People: IETF Secretariat
Key People: RFC Editor Staff & IANA Staff
Key People: IETF Executive Director

Jay Daley
The Ombudsteam

- Allison Mankin, Pete Resnick, Melinda Shore
Badge Dots & Ribbons (Who’s Who!)

- Working Group or BoF Chair
- Nominations Committee
- Internet Engineering Steering Group (IESG) Member
- Internet Architecture Board (IAB) Member
- Internet Research Group (IRSG) Member
- RFC Series Editor
- IETF LLC Board of Directors
- TBD (WG or BOF)
- TBD (RG)
Newcomer Resources

The Tao of the IETF:
A Novice’s Guide to the Internet Engineering Task Force
https://www.ietf.org/about/participate/tao/

Newcomer’s Information Page for IETF 106
https://www.ietf.org/how/meetings/106/newcomers/

Tutorials:
https://www.ietf.org/about/participate/tutorials/
More Meeting Resources

Meeting wiki:
https://trac.ietf.org/trac/ietf/meeting/wiki/ietf106

First-time attendees mailing list
https://www.ietf.org/mailman/listinfo/106-newcomers

IETF Systers
https://www.ietf.org/blog/ietf-systers/

Meeting mailing lists
https://www.ietf.org/how/meetings/ietf-meeting-mailing-lists/
(social lists, travel companions, meeting participants)
All the detailed information...

IETF Datatracker
https://datatracker.ietf.org/

Tools Page
https://tools.ietf.org/
Remote Participation
https://www.ietf.org/how/meetings/106/remote

- Attendance at face-to-face IETF meetings is not required.
- IETF supports remote attendance capabilities for all WG sessions.
- Meetecho is the tool for remote participation!
The Network @ IETF
https://tickets.meeting.ietaf.org/wiki/IETF106network

● The IETF runs its own network (including sometimes the primary hotel)
● Generally up by early Saturday and down around noon on Friday
● There are a number of wireless SSIDs available
● Avoid ietf-legacy if possible. It is unencrypted (enough said…)
● Secure networks use userid: “ietf” and password: “ietf”
● There’s a quiet work space (terminal room) with no terminals, but with power and wired Ethernet connectivity.
● And, there’s a printer and a helpdesk in the registration area.
The IETF uses eXtensible Messaging and Presence Protocol (XMPP) [RFC 6120] to host a number of chat rooms during the IETF meeting.

2. Register an account: https://list.jabber.at/
3. Join a chat room, usually: <wrgname>@jabber.ietf.org

Used to ask questions and provide a hint of where the discussion is at on slides for audio remote listeners.
Above all: Enjoy!
Questions or Feedback?
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/105new

What did we miss?

Please help us help you - answer our survey!
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/106new

Come to the feedback session Thursday morning!

Contact us at edu-team@ietf.org