Rethinking the AD job description

Rich Salz
&
Some NomCom 2022-23 Members
Problem statement

• Too often an AD position is uncontested.
  • This is the well-known *public* impact.

• The AD job is essentially full-time.

• A single two-year term is rare.
  • “It takes the first term to learn the job,” says (almost) every AD ever.
The *REAL* problem statement

- Few companies can afford to lose good engineers for four years at once.

Therefore:

- The potential talent pool for IESG membership is limited and does not represent the Global Internet Community.
Oh, and also

• IAB wants members with wide exposure to IETF technology.

• Best way to get that is as an AD, since you see all RFCs.

• The path from IESG to IAB is well-trodden.
  • “The IAB is the retirement home for IESG members” is an IETF trope.
But wait, there’s more

- Hard to be an AD without being a WG Chair.

- WG Chair is like leadership lite: less work, good justification for business travel.

- We don’t know how long chairs serve, how many people do multiple chairs, etc.
  - Working with tools team to get those numbers.
  - ADs can be chairs, IAB members can.
Thoughts on next steps

• Get metrics: who, how long, affiliations, etc.

• Work on new job descriptions for IESG, IAB.

• Consider practice, if not policy, of term limits.
  • MUST or SHOULD?

• A WG-forming BoF, no later than IETF 117.