

PIR Announces New Members of Worldwide .ORG Advisory Council

RESTON, VA – April 1, 2004 - The Public Interest Registry (PIR) announced today the appointment of four new Worldwide Advisory Council members and the reappointment of three returning council members to fill expiring term open seats. The Advisory Council is one of PIR's key resources established to solicit input from and be responsive to the needs, concerns, and views of the global non-commercial Internet community in the management of the .ORG Internet domain registry.

Returning members include:

- + Lori S. Schulman: United States (Associate Council, March of Dimes)
- + S.S. Kshatriy: Asia (Author and Technologist)
- + Eric Tomson: Europe (Member of the Internet Society Executive Committee, Wallonie, Belgium)

New members include:

- + Dave Kissoondoyal: Africa (CTO Bowman Group of Companies, Chairman Internet Society Chapter in Mauritius)
- + Ruay-Shiung Chang; Asia Pacific (Professor, National Dong Hwa University Hualien, Taiwan)
- + Cristina Coteanu: Europe (Attorney & Member of the Brussels Bar)
- + Harold Feld: United States: (Attorney & Assistant Director, Media Access Project, Non Commercial User Constituency, NCUC representative)

“PIR will use the continued guidance from our Advisory Council to assist in the areas of policy, outreach and services” said Ed Viltz, President and CEO of PIR. “We congratulate the new and the returning Advisory Council members on their recent appointments and look forward to their contributions. We are also fortunate to have had the dedication and commitment of our founding council members. They have set a high standard of excellence for future .ORG Advisory Councils.”

PIR recently conducted its first Annual Worldwide Advisory Council Conference on March 19th & 20th in Washington, D.C. The conference served as a forum to gather first year recommendations from five standing committees and to recognize the twenty one charter members. The conference also served to provide a forum for the Advisory Council to meet with the PIR Board of Directors. Other attendees and speakers included officials from multiple embassies, the US Department of Commerce, Afilias Ltd of Ireland and the Internet Society (ISOC).

About the .ORG Worldwide Advisory Council

PIR created the .ORG Advisory Council in 2003 to focus solely on .ORG issues. It is made up of leaders from the broad spectrum of the non-commercial world. The Council serves as a key resource to the PIR Board and Staff to incorporate worldwide input on policies, strategies, programs, and services affecting the international non-commercial community.

About .ORG

The .ORG domain, which has come to be associated with non-commercial activities, is the

Internet's third largest "generic" or non-country specific top-level domain with over 3 million domain names registered worldwide. In 2002, the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) Board of Directors selected ISOC's proposal from among 11 organizations bidding to operate the .ORG top-level domain. PIR assumed control of the registry on January 1, 2003.

About PIR

Public Interest Registry (www.pir.org) is a not-for-profit corporation created by the Internet Society to manage the .ORG domain. PIR's mission is to manage the .ORG domain in an exemplary manner while educating and empowering the global non-commercial community to more effectively utilize the Internet. PIR is based in Reston, Virginia.