Candidate:	Motivation:
Brenna Meade (Indiana University, USA)	I am motivated to join the GNA-G Leadership Team to contribute my technical expertise, problem-solving skills, and commitment to advancing global research and education networks. With experience as a network architect, I understand the challenges and opportunities we face and am dedicated to driving solutions with the GNA-G. My leadership approach is action-oriented—I believe in turning discussions into tangible progress. Additionally, I am passionate about fostering diversity and inclusion, demonstrated through my mentorship in WINS and my role as co-chair of the GNA-G Routing WG, where I have worked to unite diverse communities to optimize the GREN. Having been actively engaged in GNA-G initiatives for many years, I bring both strategic insight and hands-on experience. Over the years, I have had full support and encouragement from my management and Indiana University in my work with GNA-G and I continue to have this level of support for my role nomination for the GNA-G leadership team. I am eager to further contribute to the success of the GREN community through a leadership role. If selected, I will bring my experience in leading a working group that delivers tangible outcomes, along with a deep understanding of the community's needs and its vision for the future.
Nominator:	Motivation:
Thomas Araneta (Internet2, USA)	I would like to nominate Brenna Meade for a position on the GNA-G Leadership Team. She would be a highly valuable addition, bringing deep technical expertise, a results-driven approach, and commitment to the success of the initiatives within our GREN community. As a network architect with extensive experience, Brenna has an in-depth understanding of the technical challenges and opportunities we face within GNA-G. She doesn't just grasp the complexities—she actively works to solve them. Her ability to cut through obstacles, make informed decisions, and drive projects forward makes her an ideal candidate for a leadership role. Beyond her technical acumen, Brenna has a "let's do this" mentality, ensuring that ideas don't just remain discussions but are turned into concrete actions. She is someone who gets things done efficiently and effectively. Furthermore, Brenna has been a champion of diversity and inclusion. She has consistently been a thought leader and mentor in WINS (Women in IT Networking at SC), enabling opportunities for women to further their technology careers. As the co-chair of the GNA-G Routing WG, she has effectively brought diverse cultures

	and communities together to resolve technical complexity and ensure network robustness and optimization to the GREN. These qualities and world view are essential as a model leader in the R&E community. Having been an active part of the GNA-G community for several years, Brenna understands both the broader strategic vision and the day-to-day realities of our work. Her experience, energy, and hands-on approach make her an excellent fit for the Leadership Team, and I strongly support her nomination.
Seconder:	**Motivation:**
Karin Wessel (SURF, The Netherlands)	I'm writing in strong support of Brenna Mead's nomination to the GNA-G Leadership Team. I fully endorse all the points already made and would like to add an additional perspective that underscores why Brenna is such an important voice in our community. Brenna brings not only technical strength and leadership experience, but also a deeply rooted commitment to transparency, fairness, and accountability. She isn't afraid to ask the hard questions or challenge assumptions—always in the spirit of making our work better and more inclusive. Her ability to speak up with clarity and purpose ensures that critical issues are surfaced and thoughtfully addressed. Coming from International Networks at Indiana University, Brenna also brings an essential perspective to the table—she understands firsthand the importance of ensuring that all voices, regardless of size or influence, are heard and valued. Her awareness of the broader political dynamics at play, combined with her insistence on equity and openness, makes her uniquely equipped to help guide GNA-G in a way that serves the entire global community. For these reasons and those already stated, I strongly support her nomination to the Leadership Team.

Candidate:	Motivation:
Marcos Schwarz (RNP, Brazil)	I would like to self-nominate me to be part of GNA-G Leadership Team. I've been participating on international working groups like AutoGOLE and perfSONAR for the past 10 years, and I believe this is a great time to be part of GNA-G LT team to make a broader impact on our global community, especially in the involvement of the Latin America community.
Nominator:	Motivation:
Self-nomination	
Seconder:	Motivation:
Marco Teixeira (RedClara, Brazil)	I am pleased to recommend Marcos for the position of representative on the committee. His deep understanding of the region's cultural, economic, and social dynamics, combined with his exceptional communication skills, make him an ideal candidate. Marcos has consistently demonstrated his ability to engage stakeholders, foster collaboration, and advocate for the interests of Latin America. His commitment to promoting positive change and his strategic vision will undoubtedly contribute to the committee's goals and enhance its effectiveness. I am confident that Marcos will bring valuable insights and a strong voice to the table.

Candidate:	Motivation:
Helga Spitaler (GÉANT, United Kingdom)	Since joining GÉANT in 2004, as a member of the International Relations Team, I have been actively involved in supporting the development of research and education networking in regions outside Europe – specifically, in the context of EU-funded regional projects in Africa, the Middle East, Central Asia and Asia-Pacific. Driving initially predominantly the visibility efforts for these projects, my close relationship with David West has granted me invaluable insight and involvement in project aspects beyond my core responsibilities, giving me ample opportunity to contribute to decision-making and to establish myself as a trusted interlocutor for project participants, key international partners as well as for GÉANT's main funding body, the European Commission.

As a natural career progression, since 2019 I have taken on management of such projects overseeing, among others, also connectivity deployments within the regions, interconnections of regional backbones to the GÉANT infrastructure as well as coordination of peering arrangements with international peers. I am also an active member of the Asia-Pacific Europe Ring (AER) Steering Group. Furthermore, over the last three years I have been part of a core team at GÉANT dedicated to the conception and implementation of digital EU Global Gateway projects, i.e. EU Grant investments in intercontinental sub-marine cable systems in support of R&E (Medusa between Europe and North Africa and Blue Raman between Europe, East Africa and India), complementing technical and procurement expertise of the team with stakeholder engagement & project management from my side.

When GÉANT's senior management team encouraged me to put myself forward to apply for a seat on the GNA-G Leadership Team, I asked myself: how can I actually contribute? I am definitely neither a qualified network engineer nor architect (even if I have picked up a thing or two about network technologies and submarine cables along the way) – but what I can bring to the table is the bigger picture, understanding of and insight in the needs and constraints of RRENs and NRENs in different parts of the world, strong cultural awareness, demonstrated ability to navigate through and around geopolitical sensitivities and conundrums, and most importantly, extensive and trusted relationships.

I love working with inspiring people in my organisation and the wider community and would love to contribute also in the collaborative environment the GNA-G community is embedded in. My main motivation to join is to ensure that, when shaping the global research and education network landscape, also the lesser heard |

	voices in our community are being heard. This, in my opinion, is a key factor to the success of a truly inclusive and ultimately meaningful GREN. Many thanks for your consideration.
Nominator:	**Motivation:**
Simon Green (SingAREN, Singapore)	Helga's extensive experience working with the NRENs globally, and particularly within the Asian region for over a decade, makes her an ideal candidate. Her understanding of NREN needs, coupled with her ability to consolidate efforts effectively, would be invaluable to the team. Furthermore, she brings a unique and valuable perspective that I believe would greatly benefit the GNA-G Leadership Team.
Seconder:	**Motivation:**
Steve Maddocks (AARnet, Australia)	I would very much like to second the nomination of Helga Spitaler to the GNA-G Leadership Team. I have known Helga for more than six years having worked closely with her on the Collaboration Asia Europe (CAE-1) project to connect Europe to the Asia-Pacific region. Since then, we meet regularly at Asia-Pacific Europe Ring (AER) virtual meetings and face-to-face at various R&E networking conferences/meetings including APAN, Asi@Connect/TEIN, TNC, etc. Helga is a frequent and consistent attendee and contributor to global network meetings/events. Helga has forged relationships with numerous regional networks outside of Europe, not least of which the Asia-Pacific region with which I am most familiar. She has diligently represented GÉANT in the on-going development of the Asi@Connect project, for example. With her friendly, approachable style of communication; her role as Senior International Relations Manager at GÉANT; and her wealth of global network knowledge and experience, I have no hesitation in recommending Helga as a member of the GNA-G Leadership Team.

Candidate:	Motivation:
Ivana Golub (PSNC, Croatia / Poland)	From the beginning, my career is related to the research and education community, working first at the Faculty of Chemistry and Technology at the University in Split, Croatia, then for Croatian Academic and Research Network - CARNET and now Poznan Supercomputing and Networking Centre – PSNC. For more than 20 years, since GÉANT2 I was actively involved in the GÉANT projects, more than 10 years in a role of a leader of the network-related projects – service activities and work packages. My formal education includes four areas - computer networks, research, project/service/process management and teaching (with more details available on demand). Currently, I am working for PSNC, full time involved in the GÉANT5-2 project as the Network Development Work Package (WP6) joint leader. The main focus of the Network Development Work Package is development of network infrastructure and services to support advancement of R&E networks in Europe and globally. This focus very much aligns with the objectives and goals of the Global Network Advancement Group, which is one of the main sources of my motivation to apply to be a member of the GNA-G leadership team. During last three years that I have been a member of the GNA-G leadership team, I was doing my best to participate actively in all segments of the GNA-G LT work – contributed to organising and chairing community VC, initiated, organised and held in-person meetings at conferences such as GÉANT's TNC and Internet2 Communication Exchange and Technology Exchange conferences, supported working groups and served as a liaison for the Automation Working group and in the community. All this presented an excellent opportunity for me to learn, and also created a lot of opportunities for future work on strengthening the GNA-G activities and widening its impact. The possibility to pursue these opportunities is another source of my motivation to continue as an active member of the GNA-G LT for another term. Considering that this would be the last term, I would also like to help onboard new LT members so that they can engage faster with all GNA-G LT activities.
Nominator:	**Motivation:**
Self-nomination	
Seconder:	**Motivation:**
Erik-Jan Bos (NORDUnet, The Netherlands / Denmark)	I am happy to hereby second the nomination of Ivana! She has been and will continue to be an asset for the LT.

Migiel de Vos (SURF, The Netherlands)	Over the past few years, Ivana has proven to be a dedicated GNA-G leader who knows many people and plays an active role in keeping the community engaged. I would like to express my support for her nomination.

Candidate:	Motivation:
Andrew Lake (ESnet, USA)	I would like to share my strong interest in joining the Global Network Advancement Group (GNA-G) leadership team. I have had the great fortune of being part of the Research and Education (R&E) networking community for over two decades and seen firsthand the importance of global collaboration to the success of our mission to service science. Throughout my career, I have consistently sought opportunities to engage with and contribute to various communities within the R&E landscape. This began in my first days as a young engineer at Internet2 in the 2000s, where I actively worked on building international dynamic circuit networks in the DICE (DANTE, Internet2, CANARIE, ESnet) community. This has continued the past 15 years at ESnet where I have been part of numerous collaborative efforts. Amongst the most notable of these has been my role on the perfSONAR leadership team which is composed of multiple international partners. Building perfSONAR into a successful software solution and model for open-source governance has honed my ability to navigate and facilitate collaborative efforts on a global scale. Combined with active participation within key constituencies such as the WLCG and many others over the course of my career, I feel I have a strong foundation of knowledge and experience that would serve GNA-G well. I firmly believe that GNA-G has the potential to become the premier venue for R&E networking organizations to collaboratively build the Global Research and Education Network (GREN) of today and the future. Networking is, by its very nature, a collaborative endeavour. With researchers distributed across the globe, our collective success is inextricably linked. The challenges we face such as continuously growing capacity demands (particularly between continents), the imperative to enhance network operational efficiency through automation and transparency, the evolving security and policy landscape, and the integration of emerging technologies like machine learning and AI – demand a unified, international approach. GNA-G is uniquely positioned to address these challenges as a neutral ground to share ideas. By fostering collaboration and knowledge sharing among R&E networking organizations worldwide, we can develop innovative solutions that ensure our networks remain robust, resilient, and capable of supporting the increasingly demanding needs of global research and

	education. I am eager to contribute my experience and passion alongside fellow leaders to shape the future of global R&E networking.
Nominator:	**Motivation:**
Self-nomination	
Seconder:	**Motivation:**
Tim Chown (Jisc, UK)	Andy has many years of experience working in a collaborative R&E environment. He plays a leading role in the development and evolution of perfSONAR, a feature-rich tool for measuring inter-domain network characteristics and performance, a tool that requires collaboration between multiple global R&E development teams but also with a wide variety of R&E users of the software, both technical network operators and research scientists and their communities. Andy's ability to listen to feedback from a range of users, discuss suggestions for the software, and then deliver on solutions is always impressive. I've known Andy for several years, mainly through his work on perfSONAR, but also through discussions on a wide variety of topics at meetings such as TechEX. I have been a co-author with Andy on some papers, most recently on the new Scitags initiative that's come out of CERN's WLCG community, allowing marking of science data flows and packets to support inter-domain R&E traffic analysis. I have also worked with Andy on the applicability of NetSage, another great tool for analysing international R&E network traffic for which Andy was a co-PI. Andy's exceptionally personable character contributes significantly to the success of the collaborative projects he is involved with and I have no doubt that together with his apparently boundless energy and enthusiasm for R&E networking he would be a fantastic addition to the GNA-G Leadership team.
James Deaton (Internet2, USA)	Tim covered and covered well; several reasons Andy is a great nominee. His last sentence is especially important to say again. Andy's energy, enthusiasm and personable approach is reflected regularly in his work. Whether it's perfSONAR or MetrANOVA, you can see him lift those around him as a leader. I witnessed him rally a diverse set of developers and NetDevOps engineers across 3 GNA-G participating institutions to launch a live demo in a short time, this past winter – a strength that would be a great addition to the leadership team. Oh, he also has an artistic side and resulted in one of my new favorite stickers.

Candidate:	Motivation:
Renier Van Heerden (SANREN, South Africa)	As head of network engineering for SANReN, I bring an African and Southern Hemisphere view to the GNA-G. Although African are behind many parts of the world with network penetration and bandwidth use, an opportunity to skip legacy systems is happening. We have seen this with Cell phone adoption. Thus, my main contribution will be a view of NREN from Africa and developing countries. Also, I have extensive experience in Cyber Security, and aspect that is becoming more important to all services of an NREN, and should impact the GNA-G.
Nominator:	**Motivation:**
Self-nomination	
Seconder:	**Motivation:**
Madara Ogot (Ubuntunet Alliance, Malawi)	I am happy to second Dr. Renier van Heerden, the SANReN Network Engineer Manager, for a position on the leadership team of the GNA-G. As you may be aware TERNET and SANReN jointly serve as the NREN of South Africa, the largest NREN on the continent. Renier brings to the table a wealth of experience and provide an African context to the deliberations and discussions.

Candidate:	Motivation:
Karin Wessel (SURF, The Netherlands)	Since joining SURF, it's been a privilege (and such a pleasure!) to engage with the GNA-G community. I've been inspired by the collaborative spirit, the technical excellence, and the way this community works together to strengthen the global GREN ecosystem. Being nominated for a leadership role within this community is both humbling and energizing. What motivates me most about this opportunity is a deep belief in the importance of global collaboration—and in the value of making our collective work more visible, accessible, and meaningful to a wider audience. I also recognize that collaboration at this scale is never purely technical; it exists within a complex landscape shaped by a diversity of perspectives, priorities, and institutional realities. I believe in strengthening GNA-G through inclusive, federated approaches that reflect the diversity of its members and ensure that all voices are heard. As someone who naturally gravitates toward connecting people and ideas, I'm especially drawn to the role GNA-G can play in bridging disciplines, regions, and communities—encouraging coordination, open exchange, and collaboration that makes a real difference. If selected, I would welcome the chance to help articulate our shared mission, broaden our reach, and help shape where the community is headed. I bring with me experience in strategic communication, partnership-building, and cross-sector collaboration—skills I hope will support the team's vision, foster alignment, and help connect our work more broadly. Thank you again for this nomination and for considering my candidacy.
Nominator:	Motivation:
Edward Moynihan (Indiana University, USA)	I would like to nominate Karin Wessel for a position on the GNA-G Leadership Team. She would bring invaluable expertise, a collaborative spirit, and a strong commitment to advancing the impact and visibility of our GREN community. In a relatively short time, Karin has made a significant impact within the GNA-G community, contributing not only through her dedication but also by fostering strategic engagement, cross-disciplinary collaboration, and would provide new and diverse leadership strategies. While technical expertise is critical to our work, we also need leaders who can amplify our message, build bridges across communities, and drive broader engagement. Karin excels in these areas,

	ensuring that our initiatives are not only well-executed but also well-communicated and widely impactful. Her ability to connect people, articulate our mission, and elevate the visibility of GNA-G's efforts makes her an ideal candidate for a leadership role. By bringing diverse leadership skill sets into the Leadership Team, we can enhance our collective effectiveness, and Karin's strengths in communication, outreach, and strategic alignment would be a perfect complement to the team's technical foundation. She will make a significant contribution to the Leadership Team.
Seconder:	Motivation:
Ieva Muraškienė (NORDUnet, Lithuania / Denmark)	It is my great pleasure to second the nomination of Karin Wessel for position on the GNA-G Leadership Team. I believe her skillset will add great qualities and strengths to the GNA-G Leadership Team.

Candidate:	Motivation:
Richard Klinger (CANARIE, Canada)	My objective is to support the Global Research & Education Network (GREN) by fostering international partnerships and enhancing collaboration within the GNA-G community. I'm recognized as a seasoned professional with extensive operational experience in Canada's R&E network, where I have earned a reputation for thoughtful decision making and hands-on implementation. Key priorities for GNA-G contributions include: Global Collaboration: Enhancing relationships between international parties and promoting participation in GNA-G initiatives. Operations & Network Security: Supporting initiatives that reinforce routing integrity and address emerging challenges in network security—particularly in light of advancements in quantum computing. I recognize that there are many highly qualified candidates for this position, and I hope by the end of the selection process I will be chosen to have a meaningful impact on the GNA-G mission. Your consideration is very much appreciated.
Nominator:	Motivation:
Self-nomination	
Seconder:	Motivation:
Steven Wallace (Internet2, USA)	I enthusiastically Second Richard Klinger's nomination to the GNA-G LT. Richard is a trusted member of the international RE networking community, and I welcome his attention and perspective on the LT.
Nemi McCarter-Ribakoff (ESnet, USA)	Just want to add my support for Richard's nomination. Based on my time working with Richard during ESnet's collaboration with CANARIE, I am confident in Richard's abilities and believe the community would benefit from his leadership.

Candidate:	Motivation:
Dale W. Carder (ESnet, USA)	I would like to self-nominate myself for the Leadership Team. I was surprised during a recent discussion with a group of domain scientists that they believed they may have to put together a purpose-built network to meet their needs. It became apparent to me that we need to better tell the story of what the R&E community has available and how it can meet the needs of not just a few but multiple large scale science domains now and for upcoming projects as well. One of aspects of the tactical areas I would like to work on is updating our communications. We have established a successful cadence of working group and community updates, but we need to ensure that recordings and slides are published, as we have a global audience. Another larger aspect that has recently motivated me has been global interplay at the packet layer. Through GNA-G we have the opportunity to facilitate connectivity through a global mesh of R&E networks, but we also need a cohesive plan and need to firm up best practices for things such as routing security and global-scale resilience. Many of us are already doing components of this work, but not necessarily in coordination or communicating our successes as a whole.

Nominator:	Motivation:
Self-nomination	

Seconder:	Motivation:
Tim Chown (Jisc, UK)	I'd like to second the nomination of Dale Carder of ESnet for the GNA-G Leadership team. Dale is a highly experienced R&E network engineer working for ESnet at LBNL. He has a strong track record in R&E networking, particularly for the delivery of high performance, dynamic networks in support of large-scale science projects such as CERN's WLCG. I have worked with Dale for over ten years in a variety of areas in both R&E fora such as the WLCG's Research Networking Technical WG (RNTWG) and in standardisation activities at the IETF. Dale's focus has always been to engage with and understand the requirements of the users served by ESnet and to design, develop and deploy the necessary solutions to meet their needs. This has included the evolution of dynamic, programmable provisioning systems such as OSCARS, SENSE and FABRIC.

	I most recently talked with Dale at the LHCOPN/ONE meeting in Manchester this month where we had some great discussions about the community's data challenges towards the LHC high luminosity phase. At the Internet2 TechEX meeting in December I presented on the WLCG's widespread adoption of IPv6 over recent years, for which Dale was a co-author.
	Dale has contributed strongly to the RNTWG experiments in studying and testing technologies to enhance network performance such as jumbo frames, network pacing and TCP-BBR. He has co-authored papers with me on the new Scitag packet and flow marking architecture for which ESnet run a firefly collector.
	Within the IETF I have worked with Dale in a wide variety of areas, each of which has a direct impact on R&E networking, e.g., in sunsetting inter-domain ASM multicast, on an IETF draft on IPv6 address accountability, and most recently on a draft on the use of the IPv6 Flow Label for Scitags. Dale also contributed to the IETF high performance WAN BoF that I chaired last year and subsequent discussions in that area.
	In all these endeavours Dale has been a pleasure to work with. I believe the combination of his technical expertise and insights in international R&E networking together with his collegiate, personable approach to collaboration make him a strong candidate for the GNA-G leadership team.

Candidate:	Motivation:
David Wilde (AARnet, Australia)	I'd like to put myself forward for re-appointment to the GNA-G Leadership Team for a further term. I believe that GNA-G is positioned wonderfully to deliver on a range of opportunities that the community has identified. I'd love to continue to be a part of this. In particular, I'm very keen to support and drive the evolution of GNA-G which has begun in recent times through discussions with Inder, Valter and many other members of the community. The goal is to ensure that GNA-G is delivering real outcomes of operational value to the Global R&E Network, as well as providing a forum and the facilities required to develop future innovations.
Nominator:	**Motivation:**
Self-nomination	
Seconder:	**Motivation:**
Chin Guok (ESnet, USA)	It is my great pleasure to nominate David Wilde to the GNA-G leadership team. He is well respected in the NREN community and has a proven track record of leading and facilitating collaborations across global organizations. With the restructuring of the working group activities into four focus areas, and the need for realignment with the GNA-G leadership team, now more than ever, it is critical to have experienced and capable leaders in the GNA-G team. Without hesitation, I support David Wilde's nomination and strongly believe that he will continue to be a key member of the GNA-G leadership team.

Candidate:	Motivation:
Harvey Newman (CalTech, USA)	It is an honor to be nominated to continue to serve on the Global Network Advancement Group (GNA-G) Leadership Team. My acceptance of this nomination is motivated by the fact that the GNA-G has, since its founding in 2019, along with the Data Intensive Sciences Working Group that I founded in 2020 and chair, had a pivotal beneficial impact on both the research and education network and science communities. I look forward to continuing to contribute to this progress on many fronts, including: • Creating a forum to share and coordinate knowledge and resources across multiple regions of the world in support of both leading-edge science programs and the broader academic and research community that rely on networks for their daily work and progress • Developing key services, methods and system-level concepts which are required to meet the challenges faced by globally distributed science collaborations as they share, process and collaboratively analyze exponentially growing datasets • Creating a persistent R&D network infrastructure spanning multiple world regions, and a and development trajectory that has created an effective pathway to bring advanced network and associated workflow services progressively into production use • Deploying novel and in several cases transformative aproaches to both network operations and the acceleration of science workflows, from multidomain virtual circuits to new forms of source-based routing, to machine-learning based methods to optimize path selection, the balance among flows, and the levels of service provided to multiple traffic classes with varying requirements and constraints • Bringing the above themes together to develop a next generation paradigm of network operations and intelligent agent-based services, which are designed to accelerate the progress towards the next round of science discoveries and advance our knowledge of the nature, origins and evolution of the universe. As a member of the Leadership Team and Chair of the Data Intensive Sciences Working Group, I have had the privilege of contributing to this progress, working at the interface between the science and network communities, while bringing the communities together and helping to create or advance several of the developments and concepts mentioned above. I look

	forward to continuing these roles in service to these communities, while contributing to further progress.
Nominator:	**Motivation:**
Julio Ibarra (FIU, USA)	By this email I would like to nominate Prof. Harvey Newman for another term to the GNA-G Leadership Team (LT). Prof. Newman is Professor of Physics at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech), where he performs many roles in physics, campus cyberinfrastructure, and leadership activities (see attached documents). Prof. Newman has served on the GNA-G LT and chairs the GNA-G Data Intensive Sciences (DIS) Working Group (WG). Prof. Newman has extensive experience in working with the R&E networking community to leverage R&E networks to advance data intensive science. His reach is global by attracting researchers and practitioners to participate in Network Research Experiments (NREs) at SuperComputing conferences.
	Prof. Newman is passionate about advancing science by leveraging R&E networks and cyberinfrastructure to accelerate the pace of discovery. He has led many projects that apply cyberinfrastructure to advance the domain of High Energy Physics and related disciplines. For the 20+ years that I've known Prof. Newman, he has devoted his time and effort to bridging the divide between domain sciences and the R&E networking community. In these uncertain times when the sustainability of global science and R&E networks could be in question, the GNA-G LT needs the experience and leadership of Prof. Newman.
Seconder:	**Motivation:**
David Wilde (AARnet, Australia)	I'm absolutely happy to support Harvey. He's a valued contributor to GNA-G representing the scientific & research community, which complements the NREN participation wonderfully.

Candidate:	Motivation:
Jennifer Schopf (TACC, University of Texas, USA)	I am writing to self-nominate for the GNA-G Leadership Team. I have been involved with networking, and network monitoring, in various contexts for over 20 years. Currently, I'm the director of Networking partnerships for the Texas Advanced Computing Center (TACC), and part of the Leadership Class Computing Facility (LCCF) team, where I'm specifically focusing on how to have efficient and effective data movement between HPC centers. I have demonstrated significant leadership and organizational skills, from helping to start APOnet to organizing the initial perfSONAR consortium, to my early work when with Charlie Catlett I helped define most of the process and procedures for what became the Global Grid Forum. I am reaching out to several community members to second my nomination. Thank you for your consideration.
Nominator:	Motivation:
Self-nomination	
Seconder:	Motivation:
Tim Chown (Jisc, UK)	I'd like to second the nomination of Jennifer Schopf of the Texas Advanced Computing Center (TACC) for the GNA-G Leadership team.

I have known Jen and her work around supporting R&E organisations and communities with large-scale data movement for several years. We've met and chatted at many events, including TNC and TechEX, most recently last December at a TechEX BoF. Two of her projects that are of particular interest to me (and Jisc) are NetSage and EPOC.

NetSage is a powerful tool for visualising data movement logs and performance measurements in new, innovative ways. It can draw on a variety of data sources, such as SNMP polling, perfSONAR tests, and network flow logs, to allow users, whether technical network operators or research scientists, to ask questions of the data and see the results in intuitive-to-understand formats. Recently, support has been added to include Globus transfer logs, which we have found to be particularly useful.

EPOC provides a wide range of services to assist R&E organisations and networks to optimise the end-to-end performance of data transfers, from initial 'roadside assistance' engagement through discussion and deep dives with communities to identify potential bottlenecks, backed up with technical guidance to tune and optimise the systems involved. |

	Together, I believe these two projects demonstrate why Jen, with her proven long-running track record of R&E engagement, delivering advice and solutions to make a difference, would be a great addition to the GNA-G Leadership team.

Candidate:	Motivation:
Chris Wilkinson (Internet2, USA)	Throughout my career, I have been deeply committed to the advancement of the research and education mission through technical collaborative consortium building. I have successfully led initiatives that bridge diverse stakeholder interests — including NRENs, regional network operators, research institutions, and industry partners — creating cohesive frameworks for shared technological advancement. My work establishing cross-organizational partnerships has consistently delivered enhanced data movement capabilities and infrastructural improvements that serve global research collaborations. One example of this is the North America Research and Education Exchange (NA-REX), a collaboration among seven advanced research and education (R&E) networks and exchange point consortia. The collaboration supports global science research and scholarship through coordinated infrastructure, service integration, and collaborative outreach. While the physical infrastructure is the most obvious, it is the cross-organizational partnerships that I have helped facilitate that I am particularly proud of. I am eager to bring this collaborative mindset and technical consortium experience to the GNA-G leadership board, where I can help further the GNA-G's vital mission of supporting global research and education. I have been fortunate to work with many of the current leaders - particularly David Wilde and Harvey Newman - on their respective initiatives and hope to expand my own involvement in the strategic work of the GNA-G in the coming years.
Nominator:	Motivation:
Julio Ibarra (FIU, USA)	By this email I would like to nominate Chris Wilkinson, Senior Director of Network Infrastructure and Operations at Internet2, for a position on the GNA-G Leadership Team (LT). Chris has extensive experience in designing, building, and operating advanced high-performance R&E networks. In his role at Internet2, Chris serves on the Network Services Leadership team, where he oversees the design and implementation of core network and cloud infrastructure. He plays a key role in the evolution of the Internet2 backbone by developing the roadmap that will push the community infrastructure towards scalable bandwidth capacity and full automation (See Bio Sketch attached).

	Chris is very active in supporting international collaborations with NRENs and NSF projects, such as the IRNC, FABRIC, the OSG, the Open Science Data Federation (OSDF), and many others. Chris has elevated Internet2's presence in the global R&E community by engaging and supporting international communities and their events, such as Super Computing, TNC, and the IRNC South American-African Astronomy Coordination Committee (SA3CC) meeting. Chris' knowledge and experience in global R&E networking and cyberinfrastructure, coupled with his collaborative personality, leadership role, and interests in serving the broader communities that benefit from using R&E networks, positions him to contribute to the mission and goals of the GNA-G. As a member of the GNA-G LT, I believe Chris will make a positive impact to the communities the GNA-G serves.
Seconder:	**Motivation:**
James Deaton (Internet2, USA)	I am pleased to nominate Chris Wilkinson, Senior Director of Network Infrastructure and Operations at Internet2, for a position on the GNA-G Leadership Team. Chris is a well-respected leader in the global R&E networking community, with nearly two decades of experience in advancing high-performance network infrastructure. In his current role at Internet2, Chris leads one of the world's most advanced research and education networks, where he oversees the architecture, engineering, and operations teams responsible for delivering robust and scalable network services to institutions and RENs across the United States. Chris brings deep technical expertise in optical and packet networking, a collaborative spirit, and a strong track record of cross-organizational engagement. He has played a central role in strengthening international network collaborations, including trusted partnerships with many GNA-G participant organizations, and he understands the unique challenges and opportunities in aligning infrastructure and strategy at a global scale. Chris's thoughtful and forward-looking leadership style, coupled with his commitment to community service, make him exceptionally well-suited to contribute to the long-term direction of the GNA-G initiative. His presence on the Leadership Team would not only reinforce global R&E collaboration but also bring valuable insight from one of the world's largest and most interconnected R&E backbone networks.

Candidate:	Motivation:
Osamu Akashi (National Institute of Informatics, Japan)	NII operates SINET which has a 400G world-wide ring using JP-EU and JP-USA-EU lines. SINET also has JP-Guam and JP-SGP lines for Asia-Pacific traffic. SINET is also a member of APOnet, AER, and ANA. It is surely a strong framework, but I believe more collaboration among NRENs at the global scale is essential in order to ensure stability and effectiveness for the REN community. GNA-G activities are important for analysing the current status and preparing towards next steps from both technical and collaborative viewpoints. Thus, I would like to contribute as a member of GNA-G LT to support and enhance these activities.
Nominator:	Motivation:
Self-nomination	
Seconder:	Motivation:
Steve Maddocks (AARnet, Australia) expected	It gives me great pleasure to second the nomination of Osamu AKASHI to the GNA-G Leadership Team. I have known and worked alongside Akashi-san for many years, more recently in the context of global R&E network connectivity and in particular within the Asia-Pacific Europe Ring (AER) and Asia Pacific Oceania Network (APOnet) collaborations. Akashi-san has been a consistent attendee and contributor to both AER and APOnet virtual meetings as well as attending numerous 'in-person' global R&E network events. He has strong knowledge, and a wealth of experience related to R&E networking and applications within his own country; within the Asia-Pacific region; and indeed globally. Again, I have no hesitation in recommending Osamu AKASHI to the GNA-G Leadership Team.

Candidate:	Motivation:
Yeshaswini Ramesh (REANNZ, New Zealand)	I am Yeshaswini (Yesh) Ramesh, Head of Network Operations at REANNZ. I am writing to nominate myself, to the call for GNA-G Leadership Team (LT) below. As Head of Network Operations at REANNZ, I oversee the day-to-day network operations and project deliveries at REANNZ. Additionally, currently also hold the Cybersecurity program in the portfolio of work for REANNZ. Since joining REANNZ in 2015, I have worked as a part of the network operations team that implement solutions, new products, and support projects for REANNZ members.

My role has enabled me to lead projects like optical vendor replacement, hardware refresh, and new product development. I am a strong people leader and work collaboratively across the business and sector. Known for my strong leadership and collaborative approach, I have developed team members for leadership roles, with one now part of the NREN Global Leadership development program for future leaders. I am recognized for my accountability and ability to get things done.

Before the current role, I have worked Senior Network Engineer both at REANNZ and earlier worked for the IBM NZ team supporting the Vodafone IP Network. Originally from India, I worked as senior engineer at Juniper Networks, a Business Analyst at Capgemini and had various engineering roles at Alcatel-Lucent where I started my career after completing my bachelor's in computer engineering.

Why I Want to Join GNA-G Leadership Team:
Joining the GNA-G Leadership team is an opportunity for me to further use my skills and contribute to the growth and success of NREN community across the globe. The collaboration that this community achieves is second to none and are the most welcoming community which I experienced when I attended by my first TNC last year. I love my job not just because of what I do but for what we enable, the research and education sector across the globe to achieve greater outcomes for humanity now and future. I would like to take this opportunity if selected to enable NREN collaboration to deliver tangible outcomes for the benefits of the community.

Being part of the GNA-G leadership team will provide me with the platform to collaborate with like-minded professionals, share knowledge, and gain insights that will be invaluable in driving our global NREN sector to new heights. |

	I thrive in challenging environments and am always eager to take on new responsibilities and deliver results. This mindset will be a valuable asset to the GNA-G program.
	I am confident that my experience, dedication, and enthusiasm make me a strong candidate for the GNA-G program. I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to and learn from this esteemed group if selected.
	Thank you for considering my nomination. I am copying Warrick Mitchell, Director of Architecture at AARNET to second my nomination.
Nominator:	**Motivation:**
Self-nomination	
Seconder:	**Motivation:**
Warrick Mitchell (AARnet, Australia)	I second and strongly support Yesh's nomination for the GNA-G Leadership team. I believe she would be an incredible asset to the leadership team and would further grow the future of the GNA-G with her positivity and enthusiasm.