GNA-G Guidelines for Conduct

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Introduction

The work of the GNA-G relies on cooperation among a diverse range of people with different ideas and communication styles. The GNA-G strives, through these Guidelines for Conduct, to create and maintain an environment in which every person is treated with dignity, decency, and respect. People who participate in the GNA-G are expected to behave in a professional manner, as we work together to further the global network interconnect of the Global R&E Network (GREN). We aim to abide by these Guidelines as we build consensus in person, in video conferences and online events, and through email discussions.

Guidelines for Conduct

1. GNA-G participants extend respect and courtesy to their colleagues at all times

GNA-G participants come from diverse origins and backgrounds; hence, there can be different cultural norms, expectations or assumptions. Regardless of these individual differences, participants shall treat their colleagues with respect as persons, especially when it is difficult to agree with them: Treat other participants as you would like to be treated.

English is the de facto language of the GNA-G. However, it is not the native language of many GNA-G participants. All participants, particularly those with English as a first language, should attempt to accommodate the needs of other participants by communicating clearly, including speaking slowly and limiting the use of slang or idioms. When faced with English that is difficult to understand, GNA-G participants make a sincere effort to understand each other and engage in conversation to clarify what was meant.

2. GNA-G participants have constructive discussions

We dispute ideas by using reasoned argument rather than through intimidation or personal attack. Moreover, we are a community, in which pers. We try to provide data and facts for standpoints, so the rest of the participants who are sitting on the sidelines watching the discussion can form an opinion. The discussion is easier when the response to a simple question is a polite answer.

3. GNA-G participants devise solutions for the GREN that meet the needs of diverse technical and operational environments

The mission of the GNA-G is to produce high-quality, relevant technical and engineering documents and procedures that influence the way people design and manage the network aspects of the GREN in such a way as to make the GREN work better. GNA-G puts its

emphasis on technical competence, rough consensus, and inclusive participation, and it needs to be open to competent input from any source.

GNA-G participants use their best judgment to find the best solution for the GREN as a whole, not just the best solution for one particular research and education network, one university, one research institute, one technology, one vendor, or one user.

4. Individuals are prepared to contribute to the ongoing work of the group

GNA-G participants read the relevant documents in order to familiarize themselves with the topics under discussion. GNA-G Community events and Working Group sessions run on a very limited time schedule, and sometimes participants have to limit their questions. The work of the group will continue on the mailing list where questions can be asked and answered on the mailing list. Information about a Working Group including its charter and milestones is available on the GNA-G website or from the Working Group (co-)chair(s). Participants are expected to use this information to understand the history of what has been discussed or decided.

Reporting Transgressions of the Guidelines

A participant can report transgressions of these GNA-G Guidelines for Conduct to the appropriate GNA-G Working Group (co-)chair(s) for resolution.

In cases where the Working Group (co-)chair(s), in the opinion of a participant in the Working Group, transgress(es) the GNA-G Guidelines for Conduct, the participant can report this to the GNA-G Leadership Team for resolution.

In cases where a member of the Leadership Team, in the opinion of a participant in or a (co-)chair of the Working Group, transgress(es) the GNA-G Guidelines for Conduct, the participant can report this to the GNA-G Executive Liaison, for resolution.

Consequences of Transgressing the Guidelines

A Working Group (co-)chair has the authority to refuse to grant the floor (in a physical meeting, a video conference, or an online meeting, or on the mailing list) to any individual who is unprepared or is otherwise covering inappropriate material, or who, in the opinion of the (co-)chair, is disrupting the Working Group process.

Acknowledgement

This text was heavily inspired by RFC 7154.

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