Reviving the Internet Research Task Force

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Why Revive the IRTF?

IRTF "mission"

encourage research in areas of importance to the evolution of the Internet and its architecture

Revival

- **inform the community about existing Research Groups**
- **create a process for**
  - **forming new Research Groups**
  - **killing off moribund Research Groups**
  - **keeping the community informed about progress of Research Groups**
- **provide a home for work that is more research than engineering**
  - **"encourage" relocation of some existing and newly proposed IETF Working Groups**

IRTF Research Groups

Expectations

- long-lived
  - enable in-depth investigations
- cross-organizational
- possibly closed membership
  - encourage development of the close working relationship required for productive research
- regular reporting of progress to the Internet community

IRTF Research Groups

Output

- Informational RFCs
- running code
- scholarly publications
- ideas fed into existing or newly-chartered IETF working groups
- IETF technical plenaries
- workshops

Existing Research Groups and IRSG

Chartered Research Groups

- **Autonomous Networks** — **Deborah Estrin (USC)**
- **End-to-End Services** — **Bob Braden (ISI)**
- **Resource Discovery** — **Mike Schwartz (Colorado)**
- **Privacy and Security** — **Steve Kent (BBN)**
- **Libraries** — **Cliff Lynch (UCOP)**

IRTF Steering Group (IRSG)

- **research group chairs**
- **"at large" members**
  - **Dave Clark (MIT)**
  - **Dave Mills (UDEL)**
  - **Bruce Schatz (U Arizona)**

Why Create a Research Group

To do great research of importance to the evolution of the Internet

Why bother to form a group?

- **attract other great researchers to your cause**
- **management approval/tenure decisions**
- **travel support from grants**
- **potential influence**
- ***rooms available for Research Group meetings during IETF meetings***

Creating a Research Group

Process is open

(compensates for possibly closed groups)

- **anyone may propose creation of a Research Group**
- **competing groups may exist**

Forming a Research Group

- **proposal submitted to the IRTF Chair**
  - **charter, chair, founding members, etc.**
- **chartered by the IAB**
- **announced to IETF list, others?**

Description of the process published as an RFC

- **draft available shortly**

Group Chair Responsibilities

Manage the group

- **track progress**
- **arrange and run meetings**
- **etc.**

Manage the group's membership

- **the group's chair is responsible for executing whatever process the group has instituted for making decision on membership**
  - **dictatorship, rough consensus, unanimity, etc.**

Regularly report on progress (or lack of it) to IRTF Chair