

Motivation statement to stand as EOSC Association Board Director



On behalf of GÉANT, the pan-European network for the research and education community, I wish to stand for re-election as EOSC Association Board Director. It has been a privilege to serve for the past two years, and I am motivated to continue engaging with the community and representing their needs via the Board.

My board activities in the initial term have focused on community engagement. I drafted an initial set of priorities for Task Forces and consulted on these via webinars and events to agree a refined list for approval by the General Assembly. I also coordinated community inputs to the Multi-Annual Roadmap for 2023-24, working closely with the Board and Task Forces to develop initial drafts and then running a public consultation to iterate the roadmap in light of broader stakeholder priorities. Working collaboratively to reach consensus is my favoured approach and I hope to continue this approach in the Board.

Professionally I work as EOSC Engagement Manager, coordinating activities and implementing a strategy to support European NRENs to engage in EOSC and national Open Science initiatives. NRENs play an important role in delivering national services and many have taken prominent positions in EOSC projects, EOSC Association Task Forces and as Members or Mandated Organisations of the Association. There is great strength in how the community shares expertise and works collectively, and I hope to bring these lessons to EOSC Association as the membership solidifies and reaches maturity.

My personal motivation for applying for this position is to support continuity and help the Association reach maturity. I served alongside Karel Luyben in the EOSC Executive Board and the initial EOSC Association Board. As such I am familiar with the governance structures related to a European Partnership Agreement and the historical legacy of establishing the Association. I have chaired Working Groups to develop foundational recommendations for EOSC implementation, have co-authored the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda

which is the cornerstone of our work, and am also involved in implementation projects such as EOSC Future so can act as a liaison between the stakeholders.

I am an information professional with a background is in Open Science and data management, having held several roles over the past 15 years in data centres, university support services and international projects. Prior to GÉANT, I was Associate Director at the Digital Curation Centre, and continue to play an active role in international fora such as the Research Data Alliance where I chair relevant groups such as the Global Open Research Commons. I am an accomplished community builder with a diverse international network of collaborators and enjoy bringing these skills to bear in the EOSC context. Inclusivity and diversity are areas I like to champion and I hope to use the EOSC Board Director position to widen participation to under-represented communities, be they certain countries, disciplinary groups, career-stages, genders or ethnic backgrounds.

I believe I have demonstrated my commitment to EOSC and ability to act in the best interests of the collective endeavour. I hope to continue that by supporting and promoting the Association's mission and engaging the diverse range of stakeholders to ensure EOSC meets user needs and delivers tangible value.

Sarah Jones

Email: sarah.jones@geant.org

Twitter: @sarahroams