

Section II: Board of Director Nominee Information

***Full Name (Last, First)**

Herrington, John B.

***Brief (200 words or less) biography of nominee that will be included in the Ballot mailed or emailed to each General Member. Include information related to affiliation with AISES and what the nominee will bring to the Board of Directors.**

I am a retired Naval Aviator, test pilot, and astronaut. I hold a Bachelor of Science Degree in Applied Mathematics from the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, a Master of Science Degree in Aeronautical Engineering from the US Naval Postgraduate School, and Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Education from the University of Idaho. I am an enrolled member of the Chickasaw Nation in Oklahoma and considered the first tribally enrolled Native American to fly in space. As a NASA Astronaut I was assigned as a Mission Specialist on STS-113, which was the 11th American assembly mission to the International Space Station. I spent over 330 hours in space and conducted three spacewalks, totaling nearly 20 hours. I have been a member of AISES since 1997 and a Sequoyah Fellow. I served as a AISES board member from 1998 to 2000. I have supported AISES by appearing in both print and multimedia productions to increase public awareness and support of the organization. I believe it is imperative for Native American professionals in the STEM fields to act as mentors and role models for the generations to follow. As a board member I will work closely with the AISES leadership to strengthen our outreach to Native students through more effective networking between student and professional chapters.

Please Answer the Following Questions

- 1. Why would you like to serve on the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) Board of Directors? (150 words or less)**

Throughout my career as a Naval Aviator and Astronaut, I was fortunate to travel the world and interact with people from many cultures. My experiences have instilled in me a deep appreciation and respect for the diverse nature of the human race and a desire to engage and understand the perspective of others. I believe it is tremendously important to share our Native American perspective with a broad audience that has not had the opportunity to understand or appreciate the talents our Native students bring to the world. The most effective way is to bring more Native graduates into the STEM professions. Since I retired from NASA and the US Navy, I returned to higher education and earned a Doctorate in Education with research dedicated to investigating the factors which motivate and engage Native American students to study in the STEM fields. My personal goal is synonymous with the goal of AISES. It would be an honor to again serve on the AISES Board of Directors.

2. What is your past experience/association with the AISES organization? (150 words or less)

My association with AISES began in 1997. I served as a member of the Board of Directors from 1998 to 2000 and thoroughly enjoyed working with an incredibly talented group of professionals dedicated to increasing the number of Native Americans in the STEM fields. I have made many lifelong friends within the AISES organization and I value the opportunity to see AISES members achieve success in their education and professional careers. It has been my pleasure to sponsor multiple Sequoyah Fellowships and bring more Native engineers and scientists into the AISES organization. Mentorship is a key component to success for Native American students.

The AISES Board of Directors has determined that there are key skill sets needed to fulfill AISES' strategic goals. The questions below specifically address the needed skills, knowledge and experience.

3. Please elaborate on your fundraising and major gifts cultivation experience. (150 words or less)

I have and continue to serve as a board member or trustee for multiple educational and science institutions. I understand the importance of participating in the fundraising efforts and being financially responsible to the organization in which I serve. Donors to an organization are more likely to provide financial support if they know the board of directors provide 100% financial support as well. How can we justify asking for donations when the board is not 100% participatory? It is imperative that board members use their personal networks to engage and solicit donations to support the organization. I have experience working with accounting and legal professionals in maintaining oversight and management of organizational assets and documentation.

4. Given the strategic goal of increasing value to all members, what skills and resources can you provide toward the success of this strategic initiative? List experience with program development, target populations and outcomes. (150 words or less)

I have been fortunate in my career to have met and been associated with numerous individuals who have the financial wherewithal to provide support to educational programs. As a board trustee for a science museum, I have been involved in a capital campaign to raise funds for modernization of the facility. My educational experience includes working as an adjunct professor teaching mathematics at a tribal college in the Pacific Northwest. As an educational researcher, my expertise is dedicated to understanding the factors that motivate and engage Native American students to study in The STEM fields. My doctoral research was dedicated to junior high students on a rural Indian Reservation. My goal is to continue this research at the collegiate level.

5. Elaborate on your prior experience serving on non-profit Boards. Specify your understanding of the associated fiduciary responsibilities required of Board members. (150 words or less)

I have served on four non-profit boards in my professional career, once as a board chairman and three times as a board member. I have seen the best and worst of board organization and fiduciary responsibility. The board of director's responsibilities are to provide strategic direction and financial oversight to the organization without being directly involved in the day-to-day functions. I have witnessed board leadership become too involved in the day-to-day operations leading to conflict and stress within the organization. I had also been involved in an organization where some employees have utilized organizational funds for their personal gain. I believe it is imperative that board members maintain strict accountability from the organization's leadership in order to ensure their fiduciary responsibility to the donors and membership.

6. Have you visited the AISES website to view the AISES Board of Directors Roles, Responsibilities, Agreement, and Member Requirements at the following?

<http://www.aises.org/about/board>

AISES Code of Conduct document at the following?

<http://www.aises.org/about/board>

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YES

Section III: Two (2) Endorsements of Nominee (Required)

Endorsement #1

*Full Name (Last, First) Stephens, Rick	*Phone	*Email
*Endorsement Date July 11, 2016	*Endorsement Method, explain (in person, by phone, by email, by postal mail, other) e-mail	
Statement of Endorsement (Optional) (this will most likely be copied email text from the person making the endorsement to the person submitting this nomination form) (150 words or less)		

Endorsement #2

*Full Name (Last, First) Galindo, Ed	*Phone	*Email
*Endorsement Date July 21, 2016	*Endorsement Method, explain (in person, by phone, by email, by postal mail, other) Email	
Statement of Endorsement (Optional) (this will most likely be copied email text from the person making the endorsement to the person submitting this nomination form) (150 words or less)		

It is indeed an honor to say some good words about my colleague, my former student, and my friend Dr. John Herrington. I have known John for several years. John and I have a NASA connection. I was the lead on the first all native team on NASA's astronaut trainer airplane or is it is called at NASA Houston, the "Vomit-Comet" (no Indians vomited and we set a record that day) and I was the lead on the first American Indian science experiment to fly in space on the space shuttle Discovery (1998). As you know, John is the first American Indian astronaut to fly in space. I admire John for not what he knows (which is a lot), but I admire John most for his unlimited acts of kindness and compassion with ALL kinds of students. John and I have spoken to many groups of people together and I have never seen John too busy to talk to a student and get a picture with a student. John is a positive American Indian role model of hope and joy for a better day for our students. You will be lucky to have John as an AISES Board of Directors and I know I am lucky to have him as my friend.

Additional Endorsements (Optional)

Endorsement #3

*Full Name (Last, First)

Kabotie, Paul

*Phone

*Email

*Endorsement Date

July 22, 2016

*Endorsement Method, explain (in person, by phone, by email, by postal mail, other)

Email

Statement of Endorsement (Optional) (this will most likely be copied email text from the person making the endorsement to the person submitting this nomination form) (150 words or less)

Commander John Herrington, Astronaut, is the embodiment of the spirit and values of AISES. I first met John in 1994 at the AISES conference in Denver Colorado. It was his first AISES conference, and I greatly enjoyed getting to know him. At the time he expressed a sense of connectedness and great enthusiasm about AISES, it's mission and members. Since then, John has attended AISES conferences regularly, served for some years on the AISES Board of Directors, been a continual champion for STEM, education and AISES, and has been an accessible role model for youth in the U.S. and around Indian Country.

As a member of the Chickasaw Nation, and one of the few people in the world to ever be in space, John is one of the most visible Native role models in the country. He has taken on the responsibility of leadership with grace, integrity and humility. I admire his willingness to serve and I am proud and happy to nominate and endorse John Herrington as a member of the AISES Board of Directors.