

Section II: Board of Director Nominee Information

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

Burnette, Gary D.

***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 an IBM Vice President with thirty-two years' experience in technology. I hold a Bachelor of Science in Computer Sciences from East Tennessee State University and completed post-graduate studies at George Washington University. I have led global teams with as many as three thousand professionals and budgets in the hundreds of millions of dollars. My IBM experiences include product marketing, product development, "big data", and application of information technology acting as CIO for sales and marketing.

I am an enrolled member of the Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe of Southampton, Virginia and serve on its council. At IBM, I am a champion for the native community serving as corporate council co-chair for American Indian diversity. I have been featured in "Winds of Change" and in videos for IBM on the criticality of diversity.

Mentoring is my personal passion and as a leader in my profession; I have a responsibility to be a role model to encourage pursuit of STEM careers. These fields will solve many issues society faces and it's important to have representation from our communities. As a board member, I will work to strengthen partnerships between membership and business and lead application of IT to our operations.

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)

I have been fortunate to experience leadership opportunities at many levels in the organization and to visit customers, partners and employees globally. Society is challenged on many fronts -- to improve healthcare; to improve utilization of resources and to find sustainable ways to live. Our native communities see these same challenges.

I'm excited about combining the potential offered by a STEM education with the passion I see in our students to address these challenges.

I see tremendous potential in applying technology to solutions. Whatever the problem and eventual resolution, diversity of thought and experience is crucial to finding the best answer. The mission of AISES to inspire bright minds in our communities toward STEM careers is critical to ensure our voices and our unique native perspectives are heard. I'm excited about the opportunity to add my leadership experience to the tools AISES and the board can apply for continued progress.

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

Quite frankly, I am new to AISES yet hope I can bring new perspective. My association began in 2015 when I attended my first conference in Phoenix. But, I'm not new to mentoring promising employees at IBM and externally through such organizations as American Corporate Partners, which aims to ease private sector re-entry for American servicemen and women. That first experience in

Phoenix was a bit of an epiphany for me. I left seeing AISES chapter partnerships as the key to enabling our corporate (and personal) goals of increasing native talent in technical fields.

It led me to visit NDSU to meet faculty and the AISES chapter. This then led to my hiring a student from that chapter into IBM, and ultimately the creation of a new IBM program partnering with AISES chapters specifically to inspire students' interest in technology -- utilizing our most promising native employees as champions.

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)

While financial support from board members is key especially in leading by example, it alone cannot sustain the organization. Raising funds is key to a small tribe like ours, operating on budgets measured in thousands of dollars.

I developed a marketing brochure for a tribal cultural center, which has been used by our tribal leadership to secure thousands in donations. I've run social media campaigns with GoFundMe to raise several thousand and I've proposed use of comprehensive solutions such as FlipCause that allow our tribe to consolidate all sources of income -- dues, ticket sales, social media campaigns and targeted donor campaigns. The budgets are small, but the principles scale. At IBM, my roles have required development of skills in garnering millions of dollars to fund projects I proposed. These techniques, when combined can provide much needed funding.

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)

AISES opens the minds of native youth to the possibilities of rewarding careers and making significant contributions to our communities through STEM studies. When I talk with native students about the possibilities of working with artificial intelligence or cognition, they more often than not talk about applications in healthcare solving unique native issues or perhaps in agriculture or "green" focused solutions. I launched a program at IBM in which we match employees who are both native and alumnae of key schools to the AISES chapters at those schools. We encourage these champions to engage and excite students about working in technology and we hope they'll want to come to IBM. But, key is tapping into their passions and their minds. I have over 30 years in the industry and contacts across industries and the country. Broadening corporate partnerships with AISES chapters is a passion I'd love to grow beyond IBM.

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 am currently a member of the tribal council for the Cheroenhaka-Nottoway Indian Tribe and have been since 2013. I am also the current co-chair of IBM's Diversity Council on American Indians. I have been trained through the US Government Administration for Native Americans (ANA) on grant writing and fiduciary responsibilities of grant recipients. The Cheroenhaka are a small tribe with limited resources and as such, the council maintains full visibility to the financials of the tribe including revenues, donations, dues as well as expenses and decisions on payment. Careful management of financials and cash flow is a prime responsibility of the council and the perspective I bring from my work experience (managing operational budgets as large as \$1B) enables me to provide insight. These organizations simply cannot carry out their mission without fiscal responsibility and the "buck stops" with the leadership in ensuring it.

<p>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</p> <p>AISES Code of Conduct document at the following? http://www.aises.org/about/board</p> <p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No </p>

Section III: Two (2) Endorsements of Nominee (Required)		
Endorsement #1		
*Full Name (Last, First) Astigarraga, Tara		
*Endorsement Date 06-13-2017	*Endorsement Method, explain <i>(in person, by phone, by email, by postal mail, other)</i> By email	
Statement of Endorsement (Optional) <i>(this will most likely be copied email text from the person making the endorsement to the person submitting this nomination form)</i> (150 words or less)		
<p>Gary is a role model and passionate champion for the Native American constituency at IBM. He serves as a council member, coach, mentor and advocate to the Native community within IBM and is a driving force in diverse recruiting and attracting Native youth to enter careers in STEM. Gary is a technical leader with a broad range of experience, extensive leadership positions, and executive responsibilities across his 30+ year career at IBM. Gary has also represents the Hawk Clan on the Cheroenhaka Tribal Council and would bring a wealth of knowledge, experience, excitement and commitment to the AISES Board of Directors. It is my privilege to endorse Gary for AISES BOD nomination.</p>		
Endorsement #2		
*Full Name (Last, First) Pieri, Dr. Robert V.		
*Endorsement Date June 14, 2017	*Endorsement Method, explain <i>(in person, by phone, by email, by postal mail, other)</i> By 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 my pleasure to endorse Gary D Burnette's nomination to the AISES Board of Directors. I've known Gary since the fall of 2014 & have witnessed his exemplary commitment to Native American STEM education and career development. This evaluation comes after spending numerous days observing him at national conventions, visiting our campus, interacting with our students and communicating with his own coworkers. In all of these situations I have seen that his compassion and respect for the individual is deep and uniform. His attitude is always caring but straightforward. He makes an honest assessment of the situation at hand, considering a complex mix of factors and alternatives. He communicates this assessment as appropriate, while always, in my experience, treating the individual and their situation with dignity. As a Sequoia member and as the NDSU student chapter advisor, I think Gary would make an outstanding member of the board!

Additional Endorsements (Optional)

Endorsement #3

*Full Name (Last, First) Cunningham, Renee		
*Endorsement Date June 13, 2017	*Endorsement Method, explain <i>(in person, by phone, by email, by postal mail, other)</i> By 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)**

Gary's IBM career spans 33 years from a programmer to his current VP level. Gary easily relates to people from all backgrounds, education levels, and ages. Gary eagerly shares best practices, and brings fresh ideas to any topic. He also understands technology deeply having significant global IBM CIO executive experience. As the Executive Sponsor for the IBM RTP Native American BRG, he helped improve our STEM outreach where we went from one STEM outreach event per year to three. Gary has presented to the NC State AISES students, served as an IBM Career panel member for UNC Pembroke, sponsored/hosted Middle School and High School students from the nearby Robeson County Lumbee tribe. Gary is extremely supportive in helping our employee resource group grow hires and developing our current employee population. What Gary has been able to accomplish at IBM I feel strongly he will be able to replicate for AISES.

Endorsement #4

*Full Name (Last, First)	*Phone	*Email
*Endorsement Date	*Endorsement Method, explain <i>(in person, by phone, by email, by postal mail, other)</i>	

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)**