

Brian J. Lindgren Running for STC Treasurer



Hello, and thank you in advance for taking the time to read this message. As per the heading, I am a candidate for STC Treasurer. Two questions that come to mind are “Why are you running for a seat on the board?” and “Why are you running for treasurer?” The simple answer to both: I was asked.

A year ago, almost to the day, at the 2008 International Technical Communications Competitions (ITCC), former STC President Mark Hanigan and I were chatting at an after-event social with current First Vice President Cynthia Currie and International Competitions Manager Karen Baranich. This was a couple of months before I was formally named Associate Fellow. Mark and I had briefly met about 12 years earlier when he was Director-Sponsor of my region, and we reconnected at this after-hours event. As we talked about my STC background and forthcoming Associate Fellowship, he said, “Maybe next you should consider a national seat.”

Honestly, to that point I had never considered such a thing, but Mark’s seemingly out-of-the-blue comment stayed with me. Some six months later the nominating committee e-mailed me that my name had been mentioned for possible consideration as a candidate for the STC Board of Directors. Naturally I was honored, and filed the paperwork accordingly, figuring that I would be best suited as a Director on the board.

A week or so later the Nominating Committee contacted me again. After reviewing my resume, they wondered if I might consider running for Treasurer. In hindsight, I imagine they picked up on my previous business ownership, and my current involvement with Government requests for proposal. The official STC description reads, “Candidates for treasurer should have some business experience, familiarity with managing a budget, a sense about the financial impact of initiatives, expectation of inevitable expenses, and comfort with spreadsheets.” Guilty as charged.

The description continues, “a good candidate is willing to advocate for fiscal responsibility and have a different viewpoint from the rest of the Board of Directors.” Having a divergent opinion is certainly one of my strengths – sometimes to a fault! Again, I was honored that the committee asked me to run for Treasurer, and I accepted. I have benefited greatly from involvement with STC, and if running for Treasurer is a way for me to give back, I am happy to do so.

There is an old riddle, “How can you spot an extroverted engineer? He looks at ***your*** shoes while he’s talking to you.” While I am not an engineer, I certainly have some of the same traits, and I am not particularly enamored with talking about myself. I have set up a website – www.brianjlindgren.com – that provides some insight into my background. Please take the time to review my past involvement with STC, with other technical and volunteer organizations, and my resume. If you believe I will serve STC as your Treasurer, please vote for me. Once again, that I was asked to run is a major honor.

Thank you again for your time in reviewing my information.

Regards,
Brian J. Lindgren
Associate Fellow