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He has been actively involved in Internet technology since serving on the Federal Research Internet Coordinating Committee in 1989. In 1997, Dr. Alterman received the NIH Director's Award for "providing innovative leadership to NIH Executives and Managers by identifying and addressing critical issues in managing the information technologies of NIH" and this year his NIH-EDUCAUSE PKI Interoperability Project won the Management and Leadership Best Practice Award from the Computer Security and Information Assurance Conference and an E-Gov Pioneer Award. He received his Ph.D. in 1974 from the University of Denver.