



LEADING THE WAY TO TOMORROW'S INTERNET


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Volume 7, Issue 2
February 27, 2004

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CENIC News

CENIC 2004: "Lighting a Path for Your Imagination" - Register Today

CENIC's annual conference event will take place next month March 15-17 at the beautiful Ritz-Carlton in Marina del Rey http://www.ritzcarlton.com/hotels/marina_del_rey/default.html.

The Program is full of interesting speakers from many different facets of the research and education community.

Monday's session features M. Stuart Lynn on the "Future of Networking" and presentation of the "On the Road to Gigabit" Awards. To top off the day, there will be discussions of fiber to the home and fiber to the campus.

Tuesday's morning program is devoted to the hot topic of Network Security, including a morning keynote "Things That Go Bump on the Net" by Rob Thomas of Team Cymru followed by a panel of speakers on several aspects of Network Security. The afternoon is filled with many presentations in three different tracks: Collaborations, Teaching and Learning, and the New Frontier.

Wednesday's program will feature a keynote by Mark Ellisman, a leading researcher and director of the Center for Research in Biological Structure at UC San Diego, a demonstration by USC's IMSC and a panel on International Peering Strategies.

Don't miss this event. For more information about the conference, visit <http://www.cenic.org/events/cenic2004/agenda.htm>.

Source: Celeste Anderson, Program Co-chair

Subscribe to the First Mile Newsletter

First Mile is a twice-monthly publication targeting the interests of research, education, commerce, state and local government and the general public in addressing the issues surrounding the implementation of robust end-to-end broadband capabilities to every education institution, business and home in California. Check out the inaugural issue at http://www.cenic.org/gb/pubs/firstmile/fm_021804.htm

Subscribe today at: <http://lists.cenic.org/mailman/listinfo/firstmile> -- And, tell your colleagues!

One Gigabit or Bust Roundtable Meets in March

The second meeting of the One Gigabit or Bust Roundtable is scheduled on March 17 and 18 immediately following CENIC's annual conference in Marina del Rey (very close to LAX). The Roundtable is organized around topical task forces discussing everything from rural issues to broadband policies needed in California.

Task forces are open to all participants and create an open, engaging discussion environment – one that encourages the variety of perspectives needed to come up with a realistic action plan for deploying gigabit broadband to every California business, educational institution and home by 2010.

In addition to the task forces, Commissioner Susan Kennedy from the California Public Utilities Commission will join us and give us both state and federal perspectives on broadband deployment.

The agenda is now available on the web, with individual agendas for each task force. Registration fees are affordable with a no-cost option for those who want to attend one or two task forces or have limited budgets.

For more information, visit <http://www.cenic.org/gb/events/rt0304/agenda.htm>.

New CENIC Brochures are Here

The new CENIC brochures are now available online. These brochures are an excellent communication tool for explaining CENIC's history, mission, goals and successes. Download and distribute to colleagues and friends.

- *CENIC Brochure*
A brief overview of CENIC
http://www.cenic.org/pubs/brochures/cenic_brochure.pdf
- *CENIC's CalREN -- Developing and Deploying a Statewide Leading Edge Network Infrastructure*
An overview of CENIC's CalREN -- a fiber-optic-based multi-tiered advanced network-services fabric to serve research and education
http://www.cenic.org/pubs/brochures/calren_brochure.pdf
- *DCP Brochure*
A summary of the benefits and resources that CENIC's DCP provides for California's K-12 schools
http://www.cenic.org/pubs/brochuresdcp_brochure.pdf
- *One Gigabit or Bust Brochure*
A brief overview of CENIC's One Gigabit or Bust Roundtable and task forces
http://www.cenic.org/pubs/brochures/gb_brochure.pdf

Need Fiber? CENIC Delivers!

CENIC is now providing expertise for the planning and design of fiber installation. In particular, CENIC seeks joint benefit opportunities that meet the needs of education. CENIC offers fiber planning, design, and installation services to CENIC's associates on request as a recharge service.

It's a perfect match if you are ready to move on fiber – with a budget and locations identified.

Don McLaughlin from UCSD says, "In many cases, this new CENIC service has been the most cost-effective way for us to get the high bandwidth needed to our researchers and faculty off-campus. Plus, this makes it a lot easier for our campus to manage since the CENIC NOC will coordinate installation, maintenance and repairs."

CENIC works with fiber providers to come up with preliminary cost estimates including both one-time costs and annual recurring costs. Once installed, it's up to the educational institution to buy the electronics and light the fiber.

For more information on fiber design and installation, contact Greg Scott, CENIC's director of Infrastructure Initiatives at gscott@cenic.org or 562-346-2283.

National Networking News

From Wires to Users: Faculty, Not IT, Will Spur Higher Education Transformation

During the last several months, there has been quite a lively discussion about the strategic importance of Information Technology (IT) infrastructure to the health and vitality of an organization. In the November/December 2003 issue of EDUCAUSE Review, as well as in the September 2003 edition of the TLtC Webzine, UC Berkeley Chief Information Officer Jack McCredie made a strong and convincing case, in reaction to an article in the Harvard Business Review, that IT has yet to transform teaching and learning and that the IT infrastructure indeed matters a great deal to the strategic plans of the college and university. It is my view that this critical discussion has focused far too heavily on the importance of wires and computer programs. The single most indispensable element to the coming transformation of the higher education institution by IT has been largely ignored—namely, the faculty.

Source: UC TLtC News, <http://www.ucltc.org/news/2004/02/mcdonald.html>

\$22 Million to Research Technology Interventions in Math and Science

Grant Title: Interagency Education Research Initiative
Organization: National Science Foundation (NSF)
Eligibility: Universities, colleges, nonprofit organizations, state and local governments, and unaffiliated individuals
Value: \$2 million per award
Deadline: April 1, 2004

NSF invites proposals for research projects that will investigate the effectiveness of interventions designed to improve student learning and achievement in preK-12 science and/or mathematics, with an emphasis on middle and high school. Technology should be a part of the intervention or used in an essential manner of the analysis of the intervention. An estimated \$22 million is available in Fiscal Year 2004. NSF expects to make one scaling award of up to \$5 million for five years, and 10 to 12 contextual awards of up to \$2 million over five years. Letters of intent are required and are due April 1.

Contact: Finbarr C. Sloane, (703) 292-5146, fsloane@nsf.gov
<http://www.nsf.gov/pubsys/ods/getpub.cfm?nsf04553>

Source: eSchool News, <http://www.eschoolnews.com/erc/funding/opps.cfm#811>

GLIF, the Global Lambda Integrated Facility

GLIF, the Global Lambda Integrated Facility, is a world-scale Lambda-based Laboratory for application and middleware development on emerging LambdaGrids, where applications rely on dynamically configured networks based on optical wavelengths. GLIF was established at the third annual LambdaGrid Workshop organized by Kees Neggers of SURFnet and Cees de Laat of the University of Amsterdam, and hosted by NORDUnet at their annual conference in Reykjavik, Iceland, in August 2003.

The GLIF web site is live! Please see: <http://www.glif.is>

Source: STAR TAP

NSF Middleware Initiative

NSF invites proposals funding to support its Middleware Initiative. This initiative seeks to develop, deploy and sustain a set of reusable and expandable middleware functions that benefit many science and engineering applications in a networked environment. Approximately \$10 million in FY 2004 funding is expected to be available for 7-14 awards. NSF anticipates integration or deployment project awards of up to \$1 million per year for 2-3 years will be made. Middleware development or prototyping project awards may range from \$ 50,000 to \$500,000 per year for 2-3 years. The categories of proposers identified in the Grant Proposal Guide (<http://www.nsf.gov/pubsys/ods/getpub.cfm?gpg>) are eligible to submit proposals, which are due May 14, 2004.

More information is available at: http://www.nsf.gov/pubsys/ods/getpub.cfm?ods_key=nsf04555

Source: NSF

Ed Advocates Cheer eRate Leadership Changes

Leadership changes at the U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee and the Universal Service Administrative Co. (USAC) are likely to have a positive impact on the \$2.25 billion-a-year federal eRate program, according to knowledgeable education advocates.

The departure of a strident eRate opponent in the House and the arrival of an experienced eRate administrator at USAC are causes for optimism, insiders say.

Source: eSchool News, <http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/showStory.cfm?ArticleID=4886>

A Change at the Top for NSF

Arden L. Bement, Jr., became Acting Director of the National Science Foundation on February 22, 2004. He joins NSF from the National Institute of Standards and Technology, where he has been director since Dec. 7, 2001.

National Science Foundation Director Rita R. Colwell will assume the position of Chairman of Canon U.S. Life Sciences, Inc. upon her retirement from the Foundation, effective February 21, 2004.

Source: NSF, <http://www.nsf.gov/home/news.html#story1>

Science of Design

Full Proposal Deadline (due by 5 p.m. proposer's local time): May 19, 2004
Program URL: http://www.cise.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_display.cfm?pub_id=13078
Solicitation NSF 04-552 URL: <http://www.nsf.gov/pubsys/ods/getpub.cfm?nsf04552>.
Estimated Number of Awards: 15 to 25 - collaborative and/or single investigator projects
Anticipated Funding Amount: \$10,000,000 in FY 2004 pending the availability of funds

The goal of this solicitation is to stimulate research and education projects that build the Science of Design. This solicitation focuses on the scientific study of the design of software-intensive systems that perform computing, communications and information processing. Complex interdependencies strain our ability to create, maintain, comprehend and control these systems. The Science of Design seeks to rectify this situation by building a foundation for the systematic creation of software-intensive systems. This foundation will consist of a body of theoretical and empirical knowledge on design, computational methods and tools for design, and new design curriculum for the next generation of designers.

Source: CISE, <http://www.cise.nsf.gov>

Abilene Network Upgrade to 10 GBPS Complete

Abilene, the most advanced research and education network in the United States, today announced the completion of its upgrade from 2.5 Gigabits per second (Gbps) to 10 Gbps. The Internet2(R) backbone network upgrade quadruples the capacity to more than 15,000 times faster than a typical home broadband connection. Abilene partners, Indiana University, Juniper Networks and Qwest Communications, provided the equipment and services to successfully implement the network upgrade.

The Abilene upgrade gives researchers, students and professors at more than 200 Internet2 member institutions a more robust network, on which to conduct research; supports both Internet Protocol version 4 (IPv4) and native IPv6 networks; and increases overall network performance.

Source: I2 News, <http://abilene.internet2.edu/>

U.S. Creates Cyberalert System

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security announced Wednesday an e-mail alert system aimed at informing two groups of citizens--technical experts and the average home user--of potential online threats.

The system, known as the National Cyber Alert System, will be maintained and administered by the U.S. national computer emergency response team, or US-CERT, but it relies on the expertise of many security companies, said Amit Yoran, director of National Cyber Security Division of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Source: New York Times, http://www.nytimes.com/cnet/CNET_2100-7348_3-5148877.html?ex=1076312991&ei=1&en=6aba2b595419ccb1

About CENIC

CENIC is a not-for-profit corporation serving California Institute of Technology, California State University, Stanford University, University of California, University of Southern California, California Community Colleges and the statewide K-12 school system.

CENIC's mission is to facilitate and coordinate the development, deployment and operation of a set of robust multi-tiered advanced network services for this research and education community.

More information about CENIC can be found at <http://www.cenic.org>.

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Request in the message body: Signoff cenic-today

Keep track of the Digital California Project and the One Gigabit or Bust Initiative by visiting the CENIC publications page or by subscribing directly to the publications. Visit <http://www.cenic.org/pubs/> for more information.

Website questions: webmaster@cenic.org

Last Update: December 14, 2004