

SURAggrid Governance and Decision-Making Structure – An Overview

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Background

- Sep 2006 In-Person Meeting
 - *SURAgriid Project Planning Working Group* established to consider governance options for SURAgriid
- SURAgriid has 29 participating institutions/orgs
- Over 10 Teraflops of contributed resources
- To date SURAgriid has been:
 - Consortium of collaborating institutions
 - Consensus based decision-making
- State of maturity & investment >> formal governance needed
- Expected purposes of formal governance
 - Ensure those investing have appropriate role in governance
 - Support sustainable growth of active participation to enhance SURAgriid infrastructure

Background...

- Current □Participants
 - SURA
 - SURAGrid resource providers
 - Contributors to development (Portal, BridgeCA)
 - Application users
 - Those seeking shared knowledge/experience of grid
 - Corporate partners

SURAgriid Project Planning Working Group

■ Members

- Linda Akli, SURA
- Gary Crane, SURA
- Steve Johnson, Texas A&M University
- Sandi Redman, University of Alabama in Huntsville
- Don Riley, University of Maryland & SURA IT Fellow
- Mike Sachon, Old Dominion University
- Srikanth Sastry, Texas A&M University
- Mary Fran Yafchak, SURA
- Art Vandenberg, Georgia State University

■ Recommendation - March 1, 2007 document

SURAgriid Membership Classes

- Proposed recognition of 3 initial:
 - 1. Contributing Member
 - Higher education or related org contributing significant resources to advance SURAgriid regional infrastructure
 - SURA is contributing member by definition
 - 2. Participating Member
 - Higher education or related org participating in SURAgriid activities other than Contributing Member
 - 3. Partnership Member
 - Entity (org, commercial, non-HE...) with strategic relationship with SURAgriid
- Membership classes may be amended by SURAgriid Governance Committee with approval by SURAgriid membership

SURAgriD Governance and Decision-Making Structure – *Proposed*

- SURAgriD Contributing Members are primary governing body
- Each SURAgriD Contributing Member will designate one SURAgriD voting member
- SURAgriD Governance Committee elected by SURAgriD Contributing Members
 - SURAgriD Governance Committee provides
 - guidance, facilitation, reporting
- 9 members: 8 elected, 1 appointed by SURA

SURAgriD Governance and Decision-Making...

- SURAgriD Governance Committee responsibilities:
 1. Action on behalf of SURAgriD Contributing Members
 - Overall guidance for SURAgriD
 - Recommend policy/procedures for approval by SURAgriD Contributing Members
 - Recommend defined governing procedures/functions for approval by SURAgriD Contributing Members
 2. Recommend definition of SURAgriD membership criteria/evaluation for approval by SURAgriD Contributing Members
 3. Liaison with SURA IT Steering Group for strategic alignment

SURAgriD Governance and Decision-Making...

4. Appoint SURAgriD member representatives to SURAgriD Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) and work with SAG on high-level strategic goals
5. Liaison with SURAgriD/SURA working groups, committees, councils
6. SURAgriD Strategic Plan
7. Communication with SURAgriD membership
8. Annual Report of SURAgriD Status

SURAgriD Governance and Decision-Making...

- Inaugural SURAgriD Governance Committee has 1-year terms
 - Will recommend a process for elections of SURAgriD Governance Committee for approval by SURAgriD Contributing Members
 - (Staggered terms recommended)
 - Annual vote to renew/replace members
- SURAgriD Governance Committee will designate Chair, Co-Chair and other positions deemed appropriate
- All SURAgriD members (Contributing, Participating, Partnership) may participate in any discussions or SURAgriD working groups

Transitioning to the Proposed SURAGrid Governance and Decision-Making Structure

- SURAGrid Project Planning Working Group recommends:
 - Transitional mechanism (8 steps) only
 - When transition complete, SURAGrid Governance and Decision-Making Structure will be in effect
 - Steps 1-3 (see following) completed by March 31, 2007
 - Steps 4-8 (see following) completed by May 31, 2007
- Transition Steps
 1. Each SURAGrid Participating Organization (Attachment A) will designate a SURAGrid LEAD
 2. March 1, 2007 SURAGrid Governance and Decision-Making Structure submitted to:
 - SURA IT Steering Group
 - SURAGrid Strategic Advisory Group
 - SURAGrid Participating Organizations (suragrid@sura.org)

Transitioning to the Proposed...

3. SURAgid Leads vote on proposed structure
 - Two thirds majority of votes cast must be AYE for SURAgid Governance and Decision-Making Structure to be approved
4. If approved by vote,
 - SURAgid Governance and Decision-Making Structure officially adopted
 - Attachment A will record results
5. SURAgid Project Planning Group will organize nominations and election process for inaugural SURAgid Governance Committee
 - SURAgid membership will be polled for nominations for 8 elected positions

Transitioning to the Proposed...

6. Each SURAggrid Lead votes on 8 individuals from nominee pool
 - SURAggrid participating organizations that do not designate a SURAggrid Lead or do not respond with vote by dates indicated (March 31, 2007; May 31, 2007), forfeit their vote
7. Tally of cast votes determines SURAggrid Governance Committee
 - 8 nominees with highest number of SURAggrid Lead votes
 - SURA appoints 9th SURAggrid Governance Committee member
8. SURAggrid Governance Committee will:
 - Determine Chair, Co-Chair
 - Proceed with duties as defined by SURAggrid Governance and Decision-Making Structure (March 1, 2007)

□ Attachment A & B

- Attachment A
 - SURAGrid Participating Organizations (as of December 31, 2007)
- Attachment B
 - SURAGrid Advisory and Working Groups (February 2007)

Next Steps

- Designate SURAGrid Leads
- Voting for proposed structure by March 31, 2007
 - SURA to facilitate
- SURA to work with SURAGrid Project Planning Working Group to facilitate nomination/election process
- SURA to share process with:
 - SURA IT Committee
 - SURA Board of Trustees via SURA Board of Trustees meeting (mid-April 2007)
- Voting for SURAGrid Governance Committee by May 31, 2007

Q & A