



## Update – November 2007

### NEWS

#### **-- New SURAGrid Membership Criteria and Process --**

The SURAGrid Governance Committee (SGC) is an elected body charged with two core purposes:

- Ensuring that institutions and organizations investing in SURAGrid have an appropriate role in its governance; and
- Supporting the sustainable growth of active community participation and cooperative engagement in enhancing the SURAGrid infrastructure.

One of the SURAGrid Governance Committee's first tasks was to recommend a SURAGrid membership criteria and a process for evaluation and approval of applications for SURAGrid membership. The SURAGrid general membership approved the SGC membership proposal. The new process for joining SURAGrid is documented in the SURAGrid Membership Rules dated 18 October 2007. For more information on the SURAGrid Governance Committee visit [http://sura.org/programs/sura\\_grid\\_gov.html](http://sura.org/programs/sura_grid_gov.html).

#### **-- Cookin' Up Something Good for Grids! --**

SURA's Grid Technology Cookbook debuted this month, with a general press release, and announcements in International Science Grid This Week (ISGTW.org) and at SC07. This first version was made possible through major contributions from SURA, a grant to SURA from the Army Telemedicine & Advanced Technology Research Center (TATRC), and start-up funding from the Open Science Grid. It follows in the spirit of similar Cookbook productions such as the ViDe Video Conferencing Cookbook, <http://www.vide.net/cookbook/cookbook.en/>), supported or facilitated by SURA but driven by recognized need and content contributions from the academic and research community. The Grid Technology Cookbook is available freely online at <http://www.sura.org/cookbook/gtcb> and is a timely supplement to educational resources focused on increasing both the breadth and effective use of cyberinfrastructure. Content and peer review were provided by twenty-two individuals from nineteen organizations, including several contributors from the SURAGrid community. For any questions or comments on the Cookbook, or to contribute to future versions, contact co-editors Mary Trauner ([marytrauner@bellsouth.net](mailto:marytrauner@bellsouth.net)) and Mary Fran Yafchak ([maryfran@sura.org](mailto:maryfran@sura.org)).

#### **-- Packaged Stack Install Testing Commences --**

Within SURAGrid there is a common set of software (also referred to as software stack) that should be available on all SURAGrid server systems. SURA is collaborating in the use and development of this stack with Texas Tech University, who is contributing an install package to SURAGrid. It is based on similar work within the TIGRE project. Development stack testing begins this month. Test results will be incorporated into SURAGrid user documentation in the coming weeks. Current documentation is located on the *SURAGrid Stack WIKI* hosted by TIGRE at [http://omnius.hpcc.ttu.edu/SURAGrid\\_wiki/ServerStack](http://omnius.hpcc.ttu.edu/SURAGrid_wiki/ServerStack). For additional information on how to participate contact Mary Fran Yafchak at [maryfran@sura.org](mailto:maryfran@sura.org) or Jerry Perez at [Jerry.Perez@TTU.EDU](mailto:Jerry.Perez@TTU.EDU).

#### **-- SGE Cluster Job State and Load Reporting Available --**

In the process of adding Cheaha as a SURAGrid resource, the Advanced Technology Lab (@lab) in UAB's HPC Services group, developed job and load resource providers for use with GPIR to support utilization reporting to the SURAGrid portal for clusters that run SGE. See the Cheaha entry in the portal for a visual of the data:

<https://gridportal.sura.org/gridsphere/gridsphere?cid=resource-monitor&JavaScript=enabled>.

The @lab supports the construction and operation of UABgrid and its integration with other grids - like SURAGrid. The development of the GPIR SGE provider was made possible through the support of the IT Internship Program of the Office of the Vice President for Information Technology at the University of

Alabama at Birmingham, which provides real-world work experiences to graduate and undergraduate students at UAB.

The provider scripts and documentation of this effort are available at the project website <http://projects.uabgrid.uab.edu/gpir-sge>. Contact John-Paul Robinson at [jpr@uab.edu](mailto:jpr@uab.edu) for additional information.

**-- Jerry Perez is a Winner --**



Congratulations to Jerry Perez, Research Associate at the High Performance Computing Center at Texas Tech University. On October 25<sup>th</sup> He was recognized as one of the Top Twenty Young Professionals under 40 with an award in Lubbock Texas. Jerry is a regular contributor to the SURAgriD community and is currently leading the packaged SURAgriD stack installation activity. Jerry is making contributions to the broader HPC community. He is a popular colloquium speaker and guest lecturer on Grid technology, having made nearly 40 presentations over the last five years. Jerry is also a contributor to technical conferences and journals; serving as a referee for two HPC conferences and publishing a number of articles including "A description of a grid-based solution to manage copyrighted digital content to licensed users and their information appliances" in the *12<sup>th</sup> Annual J of Concurrent Engineering* (2005). Jerry is a Ph.D. candidate in Computer Information Systems at Nova Southeastern University and an avid science fiction reader.

**--- Educause 2007 Exhibition features GSU, SURAgriD, IBM partnership ---**

Victor Bolet and Art Vandenberg participated in the Educause Conference October 23-25, 2007 (Seattle, Washington) as part of IBM's exhibition booth. Georgia State presented information on its deployment of an IBM System p5 575 with Power5+ processors - which was acquired as part of the SURA-IBM partnership agreement announced August 2006. Victor and Art discussed Georgia State applications, SURAgriD activities, and the SURA-IBM partnership with conference attendees. IBM, an Educause 2007 Sponsor, invited Georgia State to participate as a key PC demo partner featuring SURAgriD.

**UPCOMING Events**

**-- SURAgriD at SC07 --**

SURAgriD participants will be everywhere at SC07 <http://sc07.supercomputing.org/index.php>. A schedule of SURAgriD participant activities will be available at the SURAgriD and GSU pedestals in the IBM booth.

In the IBM Theater:

- Gary Crane and Phil Bogden will present a joint SURAgriD/SCOOP presentation and live demo *SURAgriD and SCOOP – Leveraging the SURA - IBM grid Computing Partnership to Advance the Science of Coastal Hazard Prediction*;
- Art Vandenberg of GSU will present *Building Research Computing Infrastructure: Enterprise, Community and IBM Partnerships*;
- Maryam Rahimian of GSU will present *Molecular Dynamic Studies of DNA and Minor Groove Binder Drugs*;
- and Dr. Tarynn Whitten of VCU will present the *Multi-scale Modeling of Parasite Dynamics: a Case Study in Chagas Disease and the Role of High Performance Computing*.

Gary Crane will present an *Overview of SURAgriD* at the RENC1 and LSU/CCT exhibit booth theaters.

At the TeraGrid Education exhibit booth, Mary Fran Yafchak will be introducing the *Grid Technology Cookbook*.

Just look for the SURAGRID logo at SURAGRID Member Booths!

- University of Kentucky
- LSU CCT
- Gulf Coast Academic Supercomputing (Rice, TAMU, UH)
- RENC1
- TACC
- Texas Tech University
- University of Florida
- University of Louisiana at Lafayette
- University of Southern California
- Vanderbilt Advanced Computing

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All issues of SURGRID update can be found at [http://sura.org/programs/sura\\_grid\\_communications.html](http://sura.org/programs/sura_grid_communications.html).  
Please submit comments and contributions for inclusion to Linda Akli at [akli@sura.org](mailto:akli@sura.org).

