



Update – December 2009

NEWS

- - SURAGrid Resource Pool Expands - -

Contributed by Art Vandenberg, Georgia State University

Georgia State University recently upgraded Janus (Janus.gsu.edu) to 576 cores and 3.8TFlops, which puts SURAGrid at 27.7TFlops. The expansion of the Georgia State IBM System p5 was a result of SURAGrid negotiations with IBM for acquisition of used IBM p575 nodes from National Center for Atmospheric Research. In addition to the Janus upgrade at Georgia State, TAMU and other sites with p575 architecture were able to acquire spare nodes that will help extend the life of these core SURAGrid resources. To view SURAGrid resources, visit the SURAGrid Portal resource monitor at <https://gridportal.sura.org/gridsphere/gridsphere?cid=resource-monitor>.

- - SURAGrid Monthly Call Summary - -

Contributed by Art Vandenberg, Georgia State University

The SURAGrid November 30, 2009 Monthly Call topic was a review and discussion of the draft document "Steps needed to bring SURAGrid to an Operational State." Drafted by Philip Smith, Alan Sill and Jerry Perez of Texas Tech University as a result of discussions at the SURAGrid Fall 2009 All Hands and subsequent SURAGrid Governance Committee discussion, the document outlines key operational components of SURAGrid and recommends a set of actions for bringing SURAGrid to an improved production state. Key components include a SURAGrid software stack, a SURAGrid Certificate Authority (CA), and operations infrastructure comprising technical and administrative contacts at SURAGrid sites, a coordinated bug-tracking system, and a design group.

While SURAGrid has been building out these components since 2004, this draft document brings it together in a way that the SURAGrid Governance Committee thinks is timely for advancing the state of SURAGrid infrastructure consistent with the [SURAGrid Strategic Plan](#). With input from the monthly call discussion, the SURAGrid Governance Committee will establish specific actions to address operational improvements to SURAGrid. The SGC will keep the community informed via the SURAGrid@sura.org list and plans to discuss these actions at the SURAGrid Spring 2010 All Hands.

SURAGrid monthly calls are generally held the 3rd Monday of each month at 2pm Eastern via the SURAGrid conference bridge. The November 30, 2009 call was a combined November/December call. The next call will be in January 2010.

- - NSU Workshop: Building and Managing a Local (Campus) Grid - -

Contributed by: Eduardo Socolovsky, Norfolk State University

Jerry Perez of the Texas Tech University High Performance Computing Center (HPCC) will present *Building and Using the Grid* seminar on December 14, 2009 and a *Grid Deployment* hands-on workshop on December 15 – 17, 2009. Hosted by the Norfolk State University Center for Biotechnology and Biomedical Science (CBBS), the seminar and workshop will be held at Marie V. McDemmond Center for Applied Research, Virtualization and Collaboration Center.

This workshop on local (campus) grids will walk participants through the setup of campus grid middleware, offer examples of good grid applications, and provide access to open source grid middleware that attendees can use with institutional resources to deploy grids on their campuses. Both condor and Globus will be covered during the seminar on the first day.

Attendees will leave with an understanding of the logistical, technical, and physical requirements of building, deploying, and maintaining a campus-wide grid. The workshop is structured so that all the key elements and activities are covered the first day. Participants would be able to take all the necessary

software to their organizations, and those that bring their laptops can have an “install fest” with Condor. Additionally, interested participants may be able to “shadow” the speaker and NSU systems managers as they deploy the Norfolk State Campus Grid and turn it into production (participants must indicate their interest when they register).

There is no charge to attend. Register by sending email to Ms Tonya Stevenson tstevenson@nsu.edu. For additional information, contact Eduardo Socolovsky, easocolovsky@nsu.edu.

- - SURAGRID Spring 2010 All Hands Meeting Planning - -

The Spring All Hands Meeting is scheduled for March 24 – 26. Send email to akli@sura.org if you would like to participate on the All Hands Meeting Planning Committee. The committee meets as needed by teleconference to develop the meeting agenda.

EVENTS CALENDAR

- Feb 7-9, Net@EDU Annual Meeting 2009: Cyberinfrastructure for E-Research, Tempe, AZ
- Mar 8 – 11, Open Science Grid All Hands Meeting, Fermilab, Batavia, IL
- Mar 22 – 24, Coalition for Academic Scientific Computing, Arlington, VA
- Mar 24 – 26, SURAGRID All Hands Meeting, Washington, DC
- Apr 26-28, Spring Internet2 Member Meeting, Arlington, VA
- Aug. 2-5, TeraGrid Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA

All issues of SURAGRID update can be found at http://sura.org/programs/sura_grid_communications.html. Please submit comments and contributions for inclusion to Linda Akli at akli@sura.org.

