



Update – August 2008

NEWS

-- SURAGrid New Members --

University of Georgia joined SURAGrid as a Contributing Member. The University of Georgia is in the process of adding one IBM p630 head node and six IBM p655 (8-way) compute nodes to SURAGrid and providing SURAGrid access to 20% of the total computation cycles. Dr. Matthews-Morgan and Jerry NeSmith, Co-Director Research Computing Center, describe the University of Georgia's interest in joining SURAGrid as threefold: (1) contributing HPC resources (referenced above), (2) encouraging UGA researchers to utilize SURAGrid resources, and (3) developing inter-institutional collaborations using these resources.

The **Rochester Institute of Technology**, Rochester, New York, joined SURAGrid as a Participating member. Dr. Gurcharan Khanna, Director of Research Computing, Office of the VP for Research, attended the Spring SURAGrid All Hands meeting in D.C. and joined us on several SURAGrid monthly conference calls. Dr. Khanna notes that he and RIT want to "Learn together how to join our grids, specifically Condor pools at first, to increase resources for researchers [and] look for other areas of collaboration in research computing support... data storage, networking, middleware, training, applications, funding, etc.."

-- SURAGrid Resource Pool Grows --

SURAGrid shared computing resources now top 15Teraflops of aggregated compute power with the addition of OCTANS, a 3Teraflop IBM Cluster 1350 from Georgia State University. OCTANS.gsu.edu is a single rack with IBM BladeCenter® H technology, with 40 HS21 XM Blade servers each utilizing two Quad-Core Intel Xeon processors. The system runs RedHat Linux. Contact Victor Bolet (vbolet@gsu.edu) if you are interested in using this system. The IBM Cluster 1350 was acquired via a SURA-IBM partnership. For more information about the SURA-IBM partnership visit the "[SURA-IBM Portal for Info & Order](#)" link on the SURAGrid website.

UPCOMING Events

-- UAB to Host Campus CI-Day --

On August 21, 2008, the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) has scheduled a CI Day for its research community. External speakers for this event include R. Mark Adams, Ph.D., who is the Booz Allen Program Manager for the National Cancer Institute cancer Biomedical Informatics Grid (caBIG) project, whose presentation is entitled "caBIG, an Open Platform for Interoperable Biomedical Informatics"; Gary Crane, who is Director of Information Technology programs for SURA, whose presentation is entitled "Supporting Transformative Research through Regional Cyberinfrastructure (CI)"; and David Young, Ph.D., who is a HPC Computational Specialist at Computer Sciences Corporation, whose presentation is entitled "HPC and Network Offerings from the Alabama Supercomputer Authority."

-- SURAGrid Fall All Hands Meeting --

Mark your calendars and make your reservations. The SURAGrid Fall All Hands Meeting will be held October 1 – 3 at SURA Headquarters in Washington, DC. The meeting will start on Wednesday October 1st at 1pm and end at noon on Friday October 3rd. To reserve your room at the SURAGrid Meeting rate of \$199 per night, call the Morrison Clark Inn at 1-800-332-7879 by September 1st. Please send any suggestions you have for the meeting agenda to akli@sura.org.

All issues of SURGrid 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.

