



Subject: Leveraging SURAGrid for research proposals

An Open call to researchers and those supporting research infrastructure at all SURA and SURAGrid member institutions

As budgets everywhere tighten, the need to support innovation and progress in research and education has never been greater. At the same time, "cyberinfrastructure" is being hailed as the next level of connectivity and a critical foundation for collaborative scientific discovery. With new funding becoming available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act there are new opportunities to target the development and use of cyberinfrastructure as a means to combine and share information technology assets across organizations for greater efficiency and lower costs.

Nearly 3 dozen institutional collaborators in cooperation with SURA are continuing to build and deploy cyberinfrastructure (CI) across member sites in the form of SURAGrid (<http://www.suragrid.org>). SURAGrid represents an established community of collaborators (sharing their expertise in cyberinfrastructure) and an existing distributed high performance computing infrastructure that can be leveraged by researchers from our member institutions to advantage funding proposals that utilize CI services or propose the development of new or enhanced CI services.

When developing funding proposals that leverage cyberinfrastructure services, we urge you to consider leveraging the existing cyberinfrastructure community and infrastructure available to you through SURAGrid. SURAGrid offers:

- Access to established SURAGrid community working groups in various areas of CI development and deployment to demonstrate a broader perspective and ability to extend the scope and impact of your proposed work to a larger, regional community;
- Access to an existing pool of distributed high performance computing resources to show sufficient capability to support your proposed work. SURAGrid offers an effective test bed environment for CI development activities;
- Assistance with identifying collaborators throughout the SURA region;
- Outreach to new and underserved communities to broaden the reach and impact of your proposed work;
- Direct assistance (team facilitation, call bridge, agency information) from SURA in facilitating proposal development and team communications for proposals that involve SURA or SURAGrid.

SURA and SURAGrid are pleased and inspired by the growth of the SURAGrid program and the collaborative spirit that continues to thrive in the membership and the region. Please contact Mary Fran Yafchak (maryfran@sura.org) to learn more about how to leverage SURAGrid to add a regional cyberinfrastructure element to your institution's funding proposals.

Sincerely,

The SURAGrid Governance Committee (SGC)

Amy Apon, University of Arkansas

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Gary Crane, Southeastern Universities Research Association

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