



CHARTER of the
HIGH END COMPUTING INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NETWORKING AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH AND
DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY
NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

A. Official Designation

The High End Computing (HEC) Interagency Working Group (IWG) is hereby established by action of the Subcommittee on Networking and Information Technology Research and Development (NITRD) of the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) Committee on Technology (CoT)¹.

B. Purpose

The HEC IWG focuses on advancing the field of high-capability computing systems (HCS) which includes, but is not limited to, hardware, systems and application software, architecture, algorithms, and software development methods – for high capability compute-intensive and data-intensive computing. HCS includes fundamental research, applied R&D, technology development and engineering, infrastructure and applications, demonstrations, testing and evaluation, technology transfer, and education and training. The purpose of HEC IWG is to coordinate programs, budgets, and policy recommendations and facilitate information sharing among agencies for HCS research and development (R&D). This includes supporting national initiatives such as the National Strategic Computing Initiative (NSCI) and identifying requirements, conducting joint program planning, and developing joint strategies for the HCS programs conducted by agency members of the Subcommittee.

C. Objectives

- Explore topics of interest for interagency coordination and/or collaboration. Potential topics include technology convergence and coherence for big data and HPC; broad deployment (e.g., cloud for HPC and HPC programmability); future/exascale computing (e.g., energy efficient computing, storage systems and input/output [SSIO], and computing technologies for beyond Moore's Law). The HEC IWG will explore these topics by:

¹ The NSTC/CoT/NITRD was originally chartered on December 10, 1991. The most recent charter was signed July 10, 2013.

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- Inviting guest speakers to the HEC IWG meetings to share information about the state of the research and development for the topic under discussion and to discuss the current issues as well as future R&D directions.
- Engaging HPC stakeholders across the Federal Government, academia, private sector, and international efforts through sponsoring or participating in workshops on topics of interest to the group.
- Investigating opportunities to coordinate research opportunity calls.
- Support the HEC Information Portal, a Federal HCS inventory for engagement opportunities and resources for learning and workforce development.
- Interact with the HPC research and development community by sponsoring a panel or birds-of-a-feather session at conferences such as Supercomputing Conference (SC).

D. Functions

The HEC IWG shall perform the following functions:

- Across-agency coordination:
 - Coordinate and collaborate across Federal agencies, other NITRD bodies, and other NSTC committees as appropriate on issues of mutual interest.
 - Develop and maintain strong and forward-looking agendas that represent the current and future evolution of Information Technology Research and Development (IT R&D).
 - Identify interagency and cross-cut opportunities for collaboration, coordination, and leveraging among agencies in specific areas in IT R&D.
 - Provide a forum for agencies to exchange program-level information about agency activities (including the Annual Planning Meeting and the NITRD Supplement Data Call).
 - Select and maintain collegial leadership and dynamic membership.
- Work with the NITRD Program:
 - Develop, maintain, and periodically update interagency short-, mid-, and/or long-range strategic plans and priorities.
 - Participate and support NITRD outreach (workshops, conferences, and other meetings) to support the IWG's agenda.
 - Prepare and maintain an active charter with a specific purpose and objectives.
 - Provide inputs to NITRD's annual Supplement to the President's Budget².
 - Provide inputs to NITRD's annual Activities Report summarizing the IWG's activities.
 - Schedule and participate in regularly scheduled and ad hoc meetings, and maintain documentation of the meeting discussions.

² The IWG's activities will be reported to the appropriate Program Component Areas (s) (PCAs).

- Work with other stakeholders:
 - Assist and support the NITRD Subcommittee in responding to the recommendations of the President’s Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST), and responding to inquiries from NSTC, Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and Congress.
 - Provide inputs to NSTC strategic and Federal Plans when requested.

E. Membership

The following NITRD Member agencies are represented on the HEC IWG³:

- Department of Commerce;
- Department of Defense;
- Department of Energy;
- Department of Health and Human Services;
- Department of Homeland Security;
- Environmental Protection Agency;
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration; and
- National Science Foundation.

The following components of the Executive Office of the President may also be represented on the HEC IWG:

- Office of Management and Budget; and
- Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Federal departments, agencies, and councils that participate in the HEC IWG’s activities include:

- Department of Interior;
- Office of the Director of National Intelligence; and

such other Executive organizations, departments, and agencies as the NITRD Subcommittee or IWG Co-chairs may designate as appropriate.

F. Leadership

The Co-chairs of the HEC IWG shall be named and approved by the NITRD Subcommittee Co-chairs.

³ Changes to membership may occur without requiring a charter amendment. After charter ratification, membership and changes to membership may be tracked in a separate document.

G. Private-Sector Interface

The HEC IWG may work with appropriate private-sector⁴ entities, including the President’s Council of Advisors on Science and Technology, and will recommend to the NITRD Subcommittee the nature of any additional private-sector advice needed to accomplish its mission. The HEC IWG may interact with and receive *ad hoc* advice from various private-sector groups, consistent with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

H. Resources

The NITRD NCO shall provide project management, technical, information technology/networking, and administrative support services to the HEC IWG as part of its responsibilities to the NITRD Subcommittee.

I. Termination

Unless renewed by the Co-chairs of the NITRD Subcommittee prior to its expiration, the HEC IWG shall terminate no later than December 30, 2017.

J. Determination

I hereby determine that the establishment of the High End Computing Interagency Working Group is in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed by the Executive Branch by law, and that such duties can be performed through the advice and counsel of such a group.

Approved:

Keith A. Marzullo, Ph.D. 3/1/16
Co-chair
Subcommittee, Networking and Information
Technology R&D

James Kurose, Ph.D. 3/2/16
Co-chair
Subcommittee, Networking and Information
Technology R&D

⁴ The Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App., as amended, does not explicitly define “private sector”, but the phrase is generally understood to include individuals or entities outside the Federal government such as, but not limited to, the following: non-Federal sources, academia, State, local or tribal governments, individual citizens, the public, non-governmental organizations, industry associations, and international bodies.