

Draft Minutes
MAGIC Meeting
February 8, 2008, 2:00-4:00
NSF, Room 1150

Attendance:

Gary Crane	SURAGrid	gcrane@sura.org
Chris Greer	NCO	greer@nitrd.gov
Miron Livny	Un Wisc.	miron@cs.wisc.edu
David Martin	IBM	martinde@us.ibm.com
Grant Miller	NCO	miller@nitrd.gov
Sara Murphy	HP	sara.murphy@hp.com
Mike Nelson	Georgetown U.	mnelson@pobox.com
Ruth Pordes	Fermilab	ruth@fnal.gov
Jennifer Schopf	ANL	jms@mcs.anl.gov
Kevin Thompson	NSF	kthomps@nsf.gov

Proceedings:

This meeting of MAGIC was chaired by Kevin Thompson of the NSF.

Action Items

1. Miron Livny and Ruth Podres will hold a meeting with Gary Crane and security individuals from SURAGrid to discuss coordination between OSG and SURAGrid. They will develop guidelines for technical support to provide interoperability.
2. Grant Miller will contact TexasGrid, Allen Sill at TCU to solicit their coordination with MAGIC
3. Grant Miller will contact New York State grid (NYSGrid, Tim Lance, University of Albany and NYSERnet) to solicit their coordination with MAGIC

SURAGrid

Gary Crane, SURA Director of IT Initiatives, gave a briefing on SURAGrid. To see his complete presentation please see the MAGIC Web site at: www.nitrd.gov

SURA is an association across 15 Southern states from Delaware to Texas including 10 EPSCoR states. 92 percent of its members are HBCU. SURAGrid has, as its objective, to lower barriers for deploying and using cyber infrastructure. It supports primarily regional applications and is designed to foster collaborative research, new applications, and to provide an on-ramp to national HPC and CI facilities such as TeraGrid. SURAGrid goals are to:

- Develop scalable infrastructure
- Promote use of that infrastructure
- Provide a forum to share experience with Grid technology

Major component contributors include TACC, UVA, TTU, and ODU. Peak TeraFlops are currently 12.6, with 20. expected soon.

SURAggrid balances heterogeneity with interoperability. It provides growing capacity for its users. It is developing a common user portal and an evolving common operations and support structure: user documentation, packaged stack install, nascent accounting system, centralized support, and peer support.

SURAggrid provides a two-tiered PKI with a view to global structures for interoperability. UVA provides a Bridge Certificate Authority and an LDAP-based user account management. A SURAggrid CA is under development. SURAggrid is working with existing and potential users to facilitate operations of user applications over SURAggrid. It leverages of initial applications to illustrate usage and motivate usage.

Outreach activities include:

- Incubator for collaborative projects
- SURAggrid Cyber Infrastructure Workshop Series
- Development of educational resources

It grew out of an NSF middleware initiative to provide a testbed environment. It is largely comprised of stand-alone computer clusters in a GLOBUS environment, similar to TeraGrid (but smaller).

Current applications on SURAggrid include Storm Surge Modeling (SCOOP, a collaboration among DOD, ONR, and NOAA), threat management in urban water systems, and other applications.

Discussion among the MAGIC participants indicated that:

- OSG, TeraGrid and SURAggrid should coordinate more closely to address common interfaces, providing user access to OSG and TeraGrid resources, and exploring common interests. OSG and TeraGrid are currently in discussions
- OSG offers to share their experience in developing accounting mechanisms with SURAggrid

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TeraGrid:

TeraGrid is implementing production on the Texas Ranger System. TeraGrid has a new science advisory board headed by Jim Kinter. They seek to broaden access to new user communities and to expand current user community use of resources.

OSG

OSG is investigating its readiness to support LHC demands. How do they evaluate progress to meet community needs for LHC? What does the world LHC community expect OSG to deliver?

OSG is considering the software stack functionality and heterogeneity. What is the right level for complexity and how do you decide what level of support to provide to users?

OSG is starting its Grid Summer School in cyberspace. It is Edinborough based.

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Meetings of Interest

June 9-13: TeraGrid Conference in Las Vegas

Next MAGIC Meetings

March 7, 2:00-3:30, NSF, Room 1150

April 2, 2:00-3:30, NSF, Room 1150