

**Supercomputing Challenge Board of Directors**  
**Meeting Minutes August 14<sup>th</sup> 2012**  
**Cyber Engineering Research Laboratory, Albuquerque**

1. Call to Order

2. Quorum Board Members Present (9):

Ed Angel	Present
Bill Blackler	Present
Bob Bolz	Present
Tom Bowles	Present
Ron Davis	_____
Celia Einhorn	_____
Betsy Frederick	By phone
Tony Giancola	Present
David Kratzer	By phone
Irene Lee	_____
Lorie Liebrock	_____
Richard Oliver	_____
Bob Robey	_____
David Rogers	Present
Tim Thomas	Present

Others Present:

3. Approval of Agenda

- a) Tom B. requested addition to agenda: NMCAC computing center and business plan

4. Approval of Previous Minutes

5. Treasurer's report

- a) Checking account balance is \$77,826.73 and money market account balance is \$73,831.45.
- b) Bill B. has many issues with the budget, which was (and is) difficult to follow.
- c) According to the accountant, our budgeted expenses were \$284,867.65 and we actually spent \$242,905.14. Did we include all expenses?
- d) The account also says we were \$25K below budget in income. Combined with the \$41K below budget in expenses, he claims we made \$16,640, which we know is not the case.
- e) David K. pointed out that we were hoping to get \$30K for scholarships from CCS but only got \$10K; did get some funding from LANS; took \$10K from that to supplement decrease.

- f) An issue may be that some of the things budgeted come through the Challenge checking account, but some don't... and we have not done a good job of breaking that out. We can not survive without that money that's off the checkbook.
- g) Last year we had to dip into reserves to make it through the year (drew down \$30K from savings); it is hard to analyze where the problems lies unless we have the details. We've got to a better job of breaking down the income and expenses.
- h) Our fiscal year ends on June 30<sup>th</sup>. We are in the middle of August and we don't have a budget in place for this year. We need to get this straightened out before the next Board meeting. The finance committee will need to meet; proposal is August 28, 10 AM at SFI.
- i) → Treasurer's Report not accepted.
- j) One last item: There was a problem with the in-kind web form, which was not talking to the database → no data since January. It has been fixed, so people should start re-entering their in-kind data.

#### 6. Recent Activity and News - STI Report

- a) 34 teachers, some of whom were also facilitators - a very positive experience for them.
- b) The number of first-timers is not known exactly – maybe 8 or 10...from Gadsden, Zuni, Santa Fe.
- c) The first three days involved the use of a curriculum from Google, used for high school. A Google representative was there - a young woman, graduate of Manzano.
- d) Linda Holm interacted every day and seemed pleased.
- e) Thursday and Friday of the first week, broke the teachers up into regionally-based teams to work on projects. The second Friday (the 27th), had a meeting back in Albuquerque at the UNM EPSCoR Office, where teachers presented their projects.
- f) Talked about the Common Core Standards.
- g) First place winner, Jordan Medlock, came in and talked about his project and experience.
- h) There was a lot of good support from EPSCoR.
- i) It was a pretty good two weeks.
- j) → STI was a success!
- k) BTW, did a big push in Dona Anna county (GUTS there is 3 years old now); there are at least three teachers prepared to do GUTS. But now there is going to be an influx of 8th graders into the High School, so we have to get ready there... more work to do.

#### 7. Upcoming Activities

- a) Albuquerque Maker Fair (David R.)
  - Make Magazine holds an international festival in San Francisco: the Maker Fair.
  - David and his son went this year. It was “gloriously nerdy – people build just everything; Steam Punk, etc. etc.”
  - There is going to be a New Mexico Mini-Maker Fair on 9/23 (Sun), 10 AM, downtown Albuquerque at the Civic Plaza, in conjunction with the ISEA 2012 Conference. David is giving a talk on SC and Visualization.
  - He suggested that we might have a booth; \$300 if you want to sell stuff, but we don't need to pay that.
  - Celia and Patty want to spend \$300 on ‘sewing circuits’ and have that at the booth.

- b) Kickoff (David K.)
  - 23rd annual; 10/13 and 14, NM Tech in Socorro.
  - Will bring in as many facilitators as possible on Friday afternoon to go over what is being taught, go over the rooms, etc.
  - Going to try to keep everyone on campus this year; Irene has 20 Mac Aairs to help with that.
  - The Saturday night keynote speaker will be a doctor student from LANL, a young woman from LANL who is modeling water rights in Las Vegas, as well as analyzing twitter feeds after the Japanese Earthquake; she lost a leg during the Haitian earthquake; she is a real role model for the kids.
  - Her husband, also at LANL, will be a meet-the-scientist.
  - We anticipate 330 students, 75 teachers, 75 helpers
  - Need to keep it under the 500 max for the logistics limits; Ballroom hold 450
  - Macy Auditorium seats 600... so we shouldn't be squeezed too tight.
  - Will make a trip down there closer to October. to double-check logistics
- c) NM TIE (Technology In Education) Conference
  - One week after Socorro; held at Buffalo Thunder
  - They usually comp us a booth and are very good to us.

#### 8. 11:00 am Board membership issues

- a) No resignations.
- b) From last time, we were talking about getting new board members.
- c) This is a job of the executive committee, so it needs to meet – sometime in the next three weeks.
- d) We need help in legal, marketing; people with ties to various entities from which we will be seeking funding.
- e) We have a list, and we need to move on approaching these folks and identifying more.

#### 9. 2012-2013 Sponsors

- a) Beginning of the year – good time to look at these.
- b) Please everyone look at the 12-13 sponsors. No big changes.
- c) We are generally looking for \$50K or more.
- d) Irene is working with Intel, and while it's looking optimistic, it is not yet final. The new person is Natasha Martel – was in the leadership group at Intel. (John Miner can't be involved, now that his kids are involved.)
- e) LANSE is going well
- f) Betsy has sent Michael Trahan at SNL some information – not sure where we are going with getting solid funding from SNL.
- g) Education partners have been pretty consistent. We look for them to provide scholarships, Feb. project eval support, etc.
- h) Commercial Partners: via Ron Davis, we've switched from having SGI support us to having HP support us.
- i) LANL Foundation, a gold partner: we have not applied for any grants recently, so probably should poll them.
- j) Wolfram used to give away Mathematica to winners... but not recently. Need to reach out to them. Mathworks is heavily involved – a gold partner. Cleve is retired from Mathworks; he

has been working with us as an individual. It might be a good time for him to help us. Ed will see him soon and will talk to him.

- k) Might be a good time to refresh UNM: there's a new CS Chair, new Deans of Engineering and A&S (both with CS backgrounds), a new VPR, a new Provost... and a new President! (They need to be made aware of how active NMT has been!)
- l) Tom Bowles: Governor does not have any money. There is no science advisor. There will be new capital money; need to get something in by December... will come back to this in the discussion of the business plan.

#### 10. 'SC for All' proposal

- a) Irene (SFI) is PI and mastermind; Ed (UNM) is co-PI.
- b) The idea is to create 10,000 new science teachers... train 15-20 teachers in computational teaching; use UNM interactive online system to do it. There will be summer workshops; teachers will each recruit 15-20 students. The classes are going through the CS department; many are survey courses – bringing in people to talk. Using the State's new dual-credit program, teachers will act as the TAs and discussion leaders.
- c) It's a big grant; very competitive, multi-year. They are trying to fund it out of this year's money.
- d) The word is that it was recommended for funding.

#### 11. LANL investigations into taking the Challenge nationwide

- a) LANL's Duncan McBranch thinks we need to take this national; have had three meetings about this. Duncan thinks there are corporations who will want to invest in STEM training.
- b) Try to get four or five regions to create programs similar to the Challenge; e.g., Henry Neeman may try one at OU; could see one at ORNL, Argonne, Livermore, SDSD...
- c) Want to locate it near large labs and/or SC centers to get a decent volunteer base
- d) Probably need a year to write a grant proposal.
- e) Kurt Steinhaus thought he could come up with money for a promotional video; starting to collect video sound bites for that.
- f) One of the things they want is longitudinal studies, but getting actual data is pretty much impossible because of all the protections; the State had pressed us to prove that it works, but they don't allow access to data. They therefore put us in an impossible position. As soon as you start naming kids, you're in trouble.

#### 12. Challenge Business Plan (Tom B.)

- a) When you want to grow national, you get into the issue of metrics. The State wants to know what is the ROI... here's why it's relevant to X; then you need to express ROI for each X. So... what are the metrics, how are we going to quantify our results, and how do we get the data to support this?
- b) There is workforce and community development data. Gadsden is a good example – the difference that was made to the lives of the kids.
- c) We've got strategic direction committee, and finances committee, etc. – how do we put all these together? Nobody's made a push because nobody has put together a serious elevator speech... need to define sectors and set priorities.
- d) Companies are stressed; e.g., Intel is making record profits, but they just issued a directive wiping out all travel except high-level personnel. They are concerned that things are going to

start crashing; they feel they have not made sufficient penetration in mobile. Maybe we should be talking to Jamie Grindatto, who is now director of global staffing across the world – understands the need for qualified people.

- e) Problem: we may generate great kids, but they move to California. We have to make a pitch for how this will benefit NM.
- f) Part of the business plan has got to include *end results* in areas that are of interest to the State... and include creating and tying jobs to NM.
- g) It's like the MISP plan – you need to have educational components, etc. – but it doesn't seem that we can work with the administration... but we can work with the legislature.
- h) It was suggested to have a half-day retreat, where we bring together people from the field, who are already connected to the Challenge by social network.
- i) We need to try to get hard data from the former participants themselves, using (a limited number of) social networking tools and carefully crafted communications... LinkedIn, Facebook, SurveyMonkey, YouTube, etc.
- j) This is a good summer job for an intern. Could this be a good master's thesis? Irene knows someone at UNM who might have a student like that.
- k) One of the other things we need to decide before the middle November is whether we are going to go to the State; we should go to the State Education Board
- l) The idea of going national came up again – the Board needs to decide whether we want to pursue that or whether we want to join other groups and expand that way.
- m) There needs to be an intermediate case – we can't even grow out of our current stage unless we get funding.
- n) Does the Board want to get involved in the jobs, where the students are going? Are we going to try and target Intel and the labs, to get a stream of students who start off in the Challenge and hand them off to college?
- o) ACTION ITEM: Need to plan strategic planning committee meeting in the next few weeks. Committee needs to present a vision to the Board.

13. Comments about the NMCAC (Tom B.)

- a) The Governor has been correcting Richardson's "errors". Larry Barker took the Center to task. The Governor listened to Barker.
- b) Secretary Ackley asked for all the agreements / commitments, etc. He does understand the value of the machine.
- c) The Challenge has used the Gateways.
- d) Please direct any questions to Tom. It will be sorted out by the next Board Meeting.

14. Motion for adjourn

President \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary \_\_\_\_\_