

**Supercomputing Challenge Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes May 29th, 2014
Computer Science Research Institute (CSRI),
Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque**

1. 4:06 PM - Call to Order

2. 4:06 PM - Quorum Achieved; Board Members Present:

Ed Angel	Present	
Bill Blackler	Present	
Bob Bolz	Present	
Tom Bowles	Present	(by phone)
Scott Chadde		
Matthew Curry	Present	(our host)
Ron Davis	Present	(by phone)
Celia Einhorn	Present	
Betsy Frederick	Present	(by phone)
Tony Giancola		
David Kratzer	Present	
Patty Meyer	Present	(by phone)
Bob Robey	Present	
Tim Thomas	Present	
Teri Roberts	Present	(4:42 PM; by phone)

Others Present: None

3. 4:08 PM - Approval of Agenda

Note additional items ('ADDITION')...

1. (4:00 pm) Call to Order
2. (5 min) Quorum
3. (5 min) Approval of Agenda
4. (5 min) Approval of Previous Minutes
5. (5 min) Conflict of Interest Declarations
 - . **ADDITION:** Michalis Faloutsos...
6. (20 min) Fundraising Initiatives
 1. Legislative Grant
 2. Sandia Contract
 3. Albuquerque/Mayor Berry
 4. Others
7. (15 min) Business Plan -- expand region?

8. (5:00 pm 20 min) Recent Activity Reports
 1. Expo -- David Kratzer
 2. Summer Internships
9. (30 min) Upcoming Activity Reports
 1. STI
 - . Focus on Teacher's role rather than Student's role
 - . Career Pathways
 2. 25th Year Events
10. (6:00 pm 30 min) Treasurer's report
 1. 2013-14 Report
 2. Budget
 3. Review Staff Time Reports
 4. **ADDITION:** Need to appoint a new registered agent; RA can't live out of state
11. (15 min) Board Membership
12. (15 min) Board Document Site -- Teri Roberts

Motion to approve Agenda (Tim; Bob B. seconds) → Unanimous

4. 4:11 PM - Approval of Previous Minutes

The secretary prefers his self-imposed 'educational period' to end. Thus, going forward the only items that need to be (Open Meetings Act) and generally will be recorded in Minutes are: actionable items, motions, discussions associated with motions, votes, and maybe some pertinent discussion associated with the above types of things.

Motion to approve both previous Minutes (Bill; seconded by Celia) → Unanimous

5. 4:12 PM - Conflict of Interest Declarations

It would be useful for people to send in what other boards they serve on. Also, each Board Member should reveal/identify any org other than their board membership(s).

Tim announced that he sits on the UNM Sigma Xi Board (Past President, now regular Board Member.)

Bob Bolz announced that he is working for a new startup, Clustered Systems, Inc.

Action item: Please Email Tim Thomas with any such conflicts. (Bob R. will send out a reminder email.)

6. 4:17 PM - Fundraising Initiatives

Legislative grant

- a) 60K available sometime after 7/1... which means something like September.
- b) Seeking funding to seed expansion of the program...
- c) **Action needed:** a plan to make a report to the Legislature; be able to write back and talk about how we did with these goals. This includes development of a strategic plan, ready to present. We really need a report to all our major sponsors toward the end of the year. This plan is preferred BEFORE STI... and the report should be at the end of the school year. At least we need something before the Leg. convenes... Jan 2015.
- d) (Carl will be on the interim science and technology committee; they'll probably ask us to report in the fall.)

Sandia Contract

- a) DOE rebid: in the Lockheed Martin re-bid, the delegation was asking to have educational programs explicitly called out... the contracts typically have statements about supporting local development – STEM ed, etc. Just like we got a group together to lobby the legislature, we should do the same thing for the re-bid... if we can appeal to get appropriate verbiage into the contract, that would be helpful.
- b) **Action:** Let us appeal for supportive public comments.
- c) One of our leading statements should be that we don't have a proliferation of businesses in the state; the labs *are* our businesses; the expectations are reasonable.
- d) Tom would like to thank Celia for looking after things to do afterwards.
- e) **Action:** Celia will contact Katie.
- f) **Action:** David will contact Kurt.

Mayor Berry

Motion for the Board to approve committees for SNL contract and Albuquerque Mayor. (Tim moves; Bob B. seconded) → Unanimous

7. 4:47 PM - **Business Plan** -- Agenda item deferred: lost call with Tom B.

8. 4:47 PM - Recent Activity Reports

Expo

- a) David handed out a memo that thanked over 150 people that helped.
- b) 70 odd teams presenting minus the 6 teams who presented in the morning.
- c) 94 LANL
- d) 57 non-LANL

Summer Internships

- a) Initiated the program this year. Call went out in January; asked them to apply for the scholarships and internships at that time.
- b) About a dozen responded.
- c) It was a mixed bag; it was in our business plan; it was in the YCC proposal; it was in our documentation to the legislature... this was a learning experience.
- d) Some of the students ended up not wanting to take the internships; some had other internships, some were taking college classes... and some were just weak.
- e) Some internships were offered from DOIT; they turned it down.
- f) From the SNL perspective: "our effort was much less successful".
- g) UNM should be able to absorb quite a few of these students.
- h) Worked with Intel and Cray on internships... need some diversity... need more "pure CS" or web development type internships... the labs are rather one-dimensional.
- i) **Action:** another place where we need to work: some kids did not respond to emails; resumes and cover letters were really weak. One of our goals should be to help them produce top-quality applications so they can land internships locally.
- j) **Action:** we need to pursue internships at universities; we need to get a committee going to solicit connections... it should be called an **internship committee**.

9. 5:24 PM - Upcoming Activity Reports

1. STI
 - a. Focus on Teacher's role rather than Student's role
 - b. Career Pathways
2. 25th Year Events

EXPO

- a) Upon review: there were good reports, but the drop-off was steep; there were lots of reports that were minimal.
- b) **Action:** Teri has drafted a set of slides re. project management; it's been run by Michael Trahan; she will forward this to the board.
- c) Transportation problems keep coming up... both in the context of students coming to mid-term evaluations and the finals... *and* in the context of teachers getting to the CS4ALL activities.
- d) Encouraging more participation from rural areas was one of the articulated goals in the legislative documentation... though \$60K does not include enough money.
- e) **Possible action:** can we have at least one bus this year... as an experiment? Should we set aside \$1000 towards transportation?
- f) Note: kids now have to fill out *career pathways* documents in 8th grade... but the pathways do not include computing skills!
- g) Idea pathways would lead to computer security, which is a career.
- h) **Action item:** Bob B. will contact Department of Labor.

25th year event

- a) At awards day, it was stated that someone would search for a \$25K scholarship, but the concern is that that's a lot of money for one kid.
- b) Other ideas: silver tee-shirts.
- c) Somewhere is written "9800 students"... can we reach "10,000" this year? Probably.
- d) **Actionable idea:** Maybe the parent group could do something; we would like to energize them, including getting their help contacting the students, who don't read their email. They would also be interested in a web site with a list of programming classes available over the summer.

(7.) 6:10 PM – (back to) **Business Plan -- expand region?**

- a) Rather than expanding regionally, we should be chasing other business partners. This is something we can do without incurring substantial additional costs; we can talk to current partners, but they may be saturated.
- b) Also, they are not going to do it because it is a good thing to do; they are going to do it because there is measurable benefit.
- c) We were thinking about expanding the internship program, and this needs to be done before the fall. Maybe that's where we should be focusing this year.
- d) Observation: the State is not interested in us being regional, but the big companies are not going to be interested in us being just local.
- e) That said, we do want to focus on realistic options that we can execute in the coming year.
- f) **Action:** define a subgroup of the Board and generate a short white paper discussing strategies. (Look at the YCC proposal for building a template.)

10. 6:20 PM - **Treasurer's report**

- a) Bill read from his reports. A few points...
- b) Income: \$60K from legislature; \$25K from LANS (good news); bad news: last year it was \$50K.
- c) We need to come up with another \$80K between now and expo!
- d) If we don't start generating some income, we are going to be in big trouble; that's the bottom line. Without savings, we can't make commitments to run.
- e) Several years ago when we were in a bind, we got SNL to pay for some things, but that pot of money no longer exists; right now, that's why we are lobbying them for this DOE rebid contract.
- f) The other way is to cut our expenses.
- g) It was suggested that someone ask Kurt about money to hire help with the 'easy DCAA', but others opined that we should just be doing quick books. Things might have been different if we'd gotten the YCC, but we can't spend \$10K to set up DCAA.

Budget: **Action:** We need to schedule a meeting.

Staff Time Reports: trying to align staff time with our activities (STI & projects) and products (students finishing the Challenge.)

11. 6:37 PM - Board Membership

- a) Michaelis would like to nominate Jed.
- b) Jed is on sabbatical, and the only thing he wants to do while on sabbatical is work with the challenge.
- c) **Action**: Celia will get Jed to send a resume; let's have him come to the next Board meeting.
- d) David Rogers still wants to get a publication out, but they want hard numbers, but there are not yet enough alum response – maybe half a dozen.
- e) **Motion** to remove David Rogers from the Board (Bob B; Celia seconded) → Unanimous

12. 6:48 PM - Board Document Site -- Teri Roberts

- a) Data not yet in the repo.
- b) Plenty of stuff received via the DropBox and email.
- c) **Action**: Don't forget to check for documents in our Google Drive.
- d) **Action**: Bob R will get her a draft for the conflict of interest form.

6:51 PM - Adjourn

- a) NEXT BOARD MEETING: First week of September; Doodle poll maybe near end of July.
- b) STI is July 13 – 25th ... we could do it during that time. We could also do it during STI. The advantage to current location is that this place has Video TeleConference (VTC); we could try that in September.
- c) Suggestion: do during the first week September here, demoing the VTC.
- d) **Motion** to adjourn (Bill moved; Tim seconded) → unanimous.
- e) **We thank CSRI and Matthew Curry for kindly hosting us!**

Respectfully submitted to the Board,
T.L. Thomas, Secretary