

Supercomputing Challenge Board of Directors Meeting
February 29, 2024

Attendees:

- David Kratzer
- Thomas Robey
- Celia Einhorn
- Char Arias
- Creighton Edington
- Darko Stefanovic
- Patty Meyer
- Tim Thomas
- Kaley Woelfel

AGENDA:

5:37 Quorum met

The last meeting minutes were reviewed. Tim moved to accept the minutes, Creighton seconded it, and all voted in favor.

Year going well. Thirty-nine teams are presenting at the February Project Evaluations which is 81% of the teams that started the program. Plans are beginning to be made for the Expo at Los Alamos National Lab on April 29th, with the Awards Ceremony on the 30th at 10:00 in Los Alamos.

Treasurer's report: David Kratzer shared the current finances, which will cover the cost of the Expo and the contractor fees through July 2024. There should be \$40,000 left to close down the Supercomputing Challenge if that comes to fruition.

The decision to end the Challenge caused some people to reach out:

- Lina Germann reached out, offering assistance to secure funds and lead fundraising efforts. An Independent Contractor Agreement has been drafted to hire her for the next five months.
 - Kaley motions to extend a contract to Lina Germann, seconded by Tom.
Unanimously approved
- Someone else reached out and asked if they could fund the challenge with stocks, but they were concerned we only give awards to the highest private schools. David wants to reach back out to them.
- A Hoonify person reached out to ask what we needed.
- Someone from AFRL reached out and offered \$50k or possibly \$70. We need to follow up.

Side discussion

- Do we want to push students to use git? After discussing this no, we do not want to push this. It adds a layer of complication that will cause more roadblocks
- Overall, we don't want to push any new software or ideas that will add unnecessary complications for students in schools that are already struggling. We are aiming for inclusive participation
- One idea is to include new ideas as electives during the kickoff

Nels submitted his letter of resignation as Treasurer effective March 1st, 2024

Celia is retiring as of May 31st, 2024

David and Patty plan to lower their salaries/contracts as of July 1st, which will help justify hiring Lina going forward

We will need a Treasurer going forward

Tim makes a motion to accept Nels letter of resignation, seconded by Tom. Unanimously approved

Tim makes a motion to acknowledge Nels years of service to the Challenge, and additionally PNM's support. Tom seconded. Unanimously approved. Thank you Nels!

STEM outreach: Creighton

- Creighton was asked to summarize STEM outreach for his organization and there is an option to get some funding for the SC, though he is not optimistic on that front

Email Distro Lists

- Matt Curry still manages the fastmail distro list. Tim will reach out to him to make sure he's still okay managing that, or we can switch to the SC distro list

6:42 - Tim motions to adjourn, Char seconds. Unanimously approved.

Agenda:

--5:29 PM--

- o Establish a quorum
- o Accept Minutes of the December 14th meeting
 - > [Minutes of the December 14th meeting](#)
- o Any modifications to the agenda

--5:37 PM--

- o Activities/status report on this season's program
- o Program Plans through the end of the fiscal year (excluding possible shutdown)

--5:59 PM--

- o Treasury Report - Review financial status

- o Review responses to the shutdown email of Feb 26, 2024
- o Review/discuss the proposed new contract with Lina Germann

--6:33 PM--

- o Discuss the Treasurer situation/functions in short-term
- o Accept board member / Treasurer resignation
- o Action on any new or other retiring Board Members

--6:49 PM--

- o Potential shutdown logistical issues

--6:59 PM--

- o Adjourn