

**MINUTES  
LOUISIANA OPTICAL NETWORK INITIATIVE  
MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

July 10, 2012

The Louisiana Optical Network Initiative (LONI) Management Council (MC) met at 1:00 p.m., Tuesday, July 10, 2012, in the Board of Regents Conference Room, 6<sup>th</sup> floor, Claiborne Office Building, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Mr. Charlie McMahon, Chair of the LONI Management Council, called the meeting to order. A roll call was taken and a quorum was established.

**Council Members Present:**

Mike Asoodeh  
Brian Nichols  
Bettina Owens  
Donnie Vandal  
Ed Driesse  
Todd Barre  
Laura Levy  
Les Guice  
Rachel Vincent-Finley  
Charlie McMahon

**Council Members Absent:**

Eric Setz  
Thomas Lovince  
Joel Tohline  
Beth Courtney  
Gene Fields  
Michael Stubblefield

**Guests:**

Sam White, LSU  
Jan Waguespack, AT&T  
Brett Brock, CISCO  
Kathy Thompson, Dell  
Honggao Liu, LSU  
Nicole Noble, HP  
Elizabeth Huber, Autonomy HP  
Joey Spohrer, Dell Inc.  
Lonnie Leger, LSU  
Lance Neal, BoR  
Randy Walker, OIT  
Bud Lanier, OIT  
Angela Mastainich, BoR  
David Lemonine, DOA/OCS  
Kyle Paulsen, HP  
Barbara Goodson, BoR

## APPROVAL OF APRIL 10, 2012 MINUTES

**On a motion from Dr. Les Guice, seconded by Mr. Mike Assodeh, the LONI Management Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2012 LONI Management Council meeting.**

Chair Charlie McMahon welcomed Ms. Bettina Owens, Assistant Vice Chancellor for IT at the LSU Health Sciences Center – New Orleans, to the LONI Management Council. Ms. Owens replaces Dr. Lee Bairnsfather, who previously represented the LSU system and recently retired.

## NLR AND INTERNET 2 UPDATES

Chair McMahon and Mr. Donnie Vandal updated the Council on the status of the Mississippi institutions, which now are connecting directly to Internet 2 through their new network. The Mississippi institutions will no longer be paying BOR and LONI for a share of our Internet 2 membership. They have asked that we continue a relationship between the networks of both states to insure service reliability and redundancy. This development does create a significant loss of revenue for BOR/LONI which will have to be considered in determining the funding strategies needed to maintain appropriate network operations.

## CHIEF ADVISOR REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. McMahon informed the Council that Dr. Joel Tohline, the Chief Scientific Advisor to the Council, would not be in attendance at the meeting today due to filming being done on the LSU campus concerning the new Dell high performance computer installation. The new computer LSU is acquiring will have more power than any of the high performance computers currently available on the LONI network, including Queen Bee.

Mr. Lonnie Leger reviewed the Network Update report (attached hand-out) pointing out that the internet connection upgrade in New Orleans is now complete, the two new WANS systems for LCTCS and Southern are ready, and the Xavier University fiber project is underway, which should require no more than a ninety day completion schedule.

Mr. Leger then described an operational review underway which is focused on assessing bandwidth use by campuses and in total for the network. He reviewed and explained data reflected in some sample charts which are representative of the data collection and analysis being used. He further explained this analysis will reveal what and when campuses are utilizing bandwidth and for what general purposes. It was noted by Mr. McMahon said that some of our scientists use large amounts of bandwidth for their research and this has been addressed by establishing dedicated portions of the network to separate that traffic from the general internet traffic. Mr. Leger concluded by informing the Council that this analysis will assist in planning for bandwidth subscriptions by the campuses and on behalf of the entire network, particularly as we access the new State contracts with the major internet service providers.

Mr. Sam White reported on the high performance computer utilization chart (attached hand-out) reflecting usage of the Queen Bee (ISB), Eric (LSU), Louie (Tulane), Oliver (ULL), Painter (LA Tech), and Poseidon (UNO) computers. Allocations are made four times a year through a process whereby researchers submit requests to the LONI allocations committee for an allotment of compute cycles on the machines. The requests are evaluated and allocations are assigned to the researchers based upon availability. It was reported that there has been an increase in usage in the last year and Dr. Les Guice also noted that he believes national resource usage is growing, although we don't have any definitive statistics on that at this time.

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Mr. Vandal referred the Council to the Coastal Emergency Risk Assessment (CERA) Team request for LONI and LSU's high performance computing and networking resources to be made available to support critical activities and needs of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) in the event of a coastal emergency. This has been a standard and regular request that has been accommodated each of the past several years during hurricane season.

**On a motion by Dr. Les Guice and seconded by Mr. Mike Assodeh, the LONI Management Council voted unanimously to endorse the LONI Network accommodating the CERA Team in its support of GOHSEP's needs and activities in the event of a coastal emergency during the current hurricane season.**

Mr. Vandal then referred the Council to a request by the Governor's Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) to provide an allocation of high performance computing on a priority queue status in order to assist them in their assessment of storm surge impact for the greater New Orleans Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS).

**On motion by Mr. Donnie Vandal and seconded by Mr. Mike Assodeh, the LONI Management Council voted unanimously to endorse an allocation of high performance computing cycles on Queen Bee and the new LSU computer installation when available on a priority queue status to the Governor's Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) in support of its analysis of hurricane and storm damage risk assessment.**

Mr. Vandal referred the Council to the draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College and the Louisiana Board of Regents regarding the operations and use of the restricted Subscription Fees Account established several years ago by LSU on behalf of the Board of Regents and LONI. Mr. Vandal indicated that this MOU had been developed in consultation with Board of Regents staff and it was to be executed and effective beginning with the new fiscal year.

Mr. Vandal informed the Council that LONI staff had been working over the past several months to initiate and access some new State contracts for the provision of commodity internet

service. He reminded the Council that under a Delegation of Authority from the Division of Administration that the LONI network was authorized to serve as a purchaser, aggregator, and transporter of commodity internet services on behalf of and to higher education institutions of the State. Under these new contracts, prices will be significantly lower which will allow charges to the institutions for their service to be lower. Mr. Vandal indicated that this opportunity for lower charges would be evaluated in conjunction with the earlier described analysis of bandwidth usage and demand by the institutions so that adjustments in service and pricing could be coordinated. Mr. McMahon requested that Mr. Vandal and staff begin a dialogue with the institutions on their usage and potential pricing scenarios so that the Council would have the benefit of this information in moving forward on decisions. The timing of this effort and decision-making was discussed and it was determined that the quicker this could be done the better. It was suggested that the Board of Regents meeting in August be targeted for the presentation of recommendations on these matters to the board for its consideration. Mr. Vandal indicated that a Special Meeting of the LONI Management Council would be necessary so that the Council's recommendations could be presented to the Board of Regents at their August 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting. The Council will be surveyed as to a possible meeting August 14<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> to see if a quorum can be established.

Finally, Mr. Vandal referred the Council to a schedule of the AT&T fiber leases that are scheduled to terminate within the next few years, which had been requested at the last meeting of the Council.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before LONI Management Council, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.