

**MINUTES
LOUISIANA OPTICAL NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE
MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

February 23, 2021

The Louisiana Optical Network Infrastructure (LONI) Management Council (MC) met at 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, February 23, 2021, via zoom. Rachel Vincent-Finley, Chair, called the meeting to order and asked for a roll call. A roll call was taken, and a quorum was established.

Council Members Present:

Mike Asoodeh
Kenneth Boe
Gabriel Fagbeyiro
Gene Fields
Terrence Ginn
Paul Helton
Richard Howze
Lonnie Leger
Brad Masters
Ram Ramachandran
J. Ram Ramanujam
Eric Setz

Rachel Vincent-Finley
Craig Woolley

Council Members Absent:

Beth Courtney

Guest:

Lance Neal
Angela Mastainich

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY MINUTES:

On the motion of Mr. Gene Fields, seconded by Mr. Lonnie Leger, the LONI Management Council moved that motion be passed to approve the February 23, 2021 LONI Management Council meeting minutes.

BUSINESS CHAIR

Dr. Rachel Finley introduced the following new appointments to the council and stated that she looks forward to their service to the community.

Dr. Tanuja Singh from Loyola University

Dr. Giovanni Piedimonte from Tulane University

Call for Public Comments

There were no public comments

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

2021 Work Plan

- Increase participation in our working groups – We have great participation, but we would like to see more community engagement.
- Host a LONI Summit – This is will not take place in person in spring of 2021, but anticipate hold the event next year in person.
- Increase the number of subscribers
- Establish direct network peerings with Ellucian, Workday, and other valued business relationships
- Join University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) in a collective participation in the FCC Rural Health Care program

News and Events

Mark your calendar LONI is hosting a virtual conference on March 24, 2021 from 1pm to 4 pm.

The University of Holy Cross in New Orleans is a new subscriber with services starting in FY22 with a collection of programs that LONI network has put together building a ring out. There are approximately five schools that will be signing up for this endeavor.

WYES-TV in New Orleans has requested to connect to LONI for their public board casting portfolio that they share with LBP.

The Board of Regents continues to review the next steps of engagements. This is an ongoing element of our agenda. This is still on the radar we are powering through the governance associated with such.

PaaS FY21 Payment Status

It's all great! Lonnie stated that LONI staff try to deliver good customer service on their programs.

PaaS FY22 Service Order Status

Looking great! Lonnie stated that the LONI staff is currently wrapping up some confirmations. He thanked all persons that reached out to their universities and colleagues. He added that the LONI network is very close to the finish line.

PaaS Update

In early December of 2020, the LONI staff communicated the finalize service offerings through FAQ. Also, the staff hosted personal emails or calls with each of the subscribers to determine their choice of platform services.

Just before the Christmas Holiday break, Lonnie stated that a purchase order was issued to selected vendor for their optical lifecycle replacement. This will more than likely consume the LONI staff for the remaining of 2021.

In early February of 2021, the LONI staff presented a scoped quote for the finance portion through the State for the equipment, they are hoping to hear some news in the coming week.

HPC Quarterly Update

Lonnie stated that all of the LONI Management Council members should have received this handout with the agenda.an update. Lonnie also stated that if they are any questions to ask them or direct them to Sam or any other appropriate LONI staff member

Network Quarterly Update

Lonnie stated that all of the LONI Management Council members should have received this handout with the agenda. Lonnie also stated that if there are any questions to ask them or direct them Gary or any other appropriate LONI staff member.

Call for Public Comments

There were no comments

CHIEF ADVISORS REPORTS/RECOMMENDATION

Chief Scientist Ram Ramanujam spoke about the cycle of replacement of HPC at LSU that should come online, and he reported that Sam is fully aware and that they have been in discussions regarding looking at configurations from vendors. He also mentioned that they are trying to provide a sufficiently new experimental architecture as a part of the entire system.

Chief Technology Advisor Gene Fields spoke about the transitioning to the trending topics calls. There are lots of discussions on the compliance as well as the technology side of the house.

Gene thanked everyone for all the increased participation that he has seen across the community but asked that everyone continue to urge their counterparts to participate.

Lance Neal added the trending topics came out of the COVID calls that began one year ago and with the communities' input has transitioned to how can we collaborate on pressing and emerging. The most recent call was cancelled but will resume next month.

Chief Economic Development Advisor Paul Helton stated that when COVID hit one of the major initiatives in progress was the Resilient Louisiana Commission which has completed its work with published recommendations at LED.gov. There were a lot of recommendations and changes made.

Call for Public Comments

There were no public comments

OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

Executive Director presented the new LONI 5-year Subscriber Membership Agreement developed in collaboration with Regents.

The revised council bylaws can be found on LONI.org, updated and active.

Executive Director shared his virtual office hours for the new members and the 2021 and 2022 meeting schedule.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the LONI Management Council, Dr. Finley asked for a motion to adjourn. On the motion of Mr. Kenneth Boe, seconded by Mike Asoodeh, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.