MINUTES
LOUISIANA OPTICAL NETWORK INITIATIVE
MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

January 10, 2012

The Louisiana Optical Network Initiative (LONI) Management Council (MC) met at

1:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 10, 2012, in the Board of Regents Conference Room, 6th 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
Lee Bairnsfather (on phone)
Randy Ward (for Beth Courtney)
Donnie Vandal
Ed Driesse
Gene Fields
Todd Barre
Joel Tohline
Laura Levy (on phone)
Les Guice
Rachel Vincent-Finley
Charlie McMahon

Council Members Absent:
Eric Setz
Bob Fudickar
Michael Stubblefield
Thomas Lovince

Guests:
Angela Mastainich, BoR
Sam White, LSU
Jan Waguespack, AT&T
Brett Brock, CISCO
Tom Raisor, Dell Inc.
Honggao Liu, LSU
Keith Cullum, Dell
Blake Gonzales, Dell Inc.
Uma Subramanian
Lonnie Leger, LSU

On a motion from Mr. Donnie Vandal, seconded by Dr. Les Guice, the LONI Management Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2011 LONI Management Council meeting.

Mr. Charlie McMahon introduced Dave Jursik, Vice President for IBM, who addressed the Council concerning High Performance Computing (HPC) and Economic Development. He has spoken to industry, government and academic research institutions concerning the value of supercomputing for business development purposes. In China, for example, they feel so strongly concerning HPC and supercomputing that for every dollar contributed by industry for HPC investment, the government will match it with ten dollars. Moving forward IBM is looking to use HPC in industry such as building roads, water lines, helping Homeland Security, etc. instead of just for research purposes. Through the use of HPC, economic development will prosper in large industries like car companies as well as small and medium companies with the specific purpose of driving economic development with job growth. Ultimately IBM would like to work with the LONI network to spur economic growth and development in the state of Louisiana.

Mr. Charlie McMahon then acknowledged the other vendors that were present today representing Dell, Cisco and AT&T.

NLR AND INTERNET 2 UPDATES

Mr. Donnie Vandal, Executive Director for LONI reminded everyone of the upcoming Internet 2 Joint Techs conference at the Pennington Biomedical Research Center on January 20-28th, with pre and post sessions during those dates. The conference officially begins on January 23rd with Dr. Jim Purcell, Commissioner of Higher Education, delivering opening remarks. This will provide a wonderful opportunity to share Louisiana's success with the LONI network with

many from within the education and research network community from across the nation and even internationally. Those involved in network operations and those involved in research using high performance computing and high-speed networks in Louisiana have been encouraged to attend and it is hoped that there is good participation from Louisiana. Mr. Lonnie Leger provided some of the highlights of the agenda, noting discussions planned regarding the Innovations Platform that Internet 2 is developing, cloud computing, "open flow" and software-defined networking (SDN) technologies, and infrastructure support for data-intensive science. Mr. McMahon suggested that everyone should go back to their campuses and inquire as to whether "open flow" technologies are known and well understood and, if not, then staff should be in attendance at this meeting. "Open Flow" technologies will be replacing the old TPC networks in the future. These topics are leading edge technologies in the network industry and they will become the standard as network design moves forward.

Mr. Charlie McMahon reported that on behalf of Internet 2, he and others within the Internet 2 community have been serving on a committee developing some potential offerings to be part of Internet 2's evolving Net+ services. The committee has designed architecture for cloud-based SIP (VOIP) services that would be delivered on the Internet 2 backbone. Due diligence has been done, an RFP has been developed and released, and it is anticipated that very attractive pricing of services for campuses will be available. More information will come in early February when the bids are opened and this could be a very significant event in driving costs down for telecommunication services for higher education institutions. It is estimated that this service could grow to as many as 1 million phones lines in the first five years.

CHIEF ADVISOR REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Joel Toline said there were no new funded research projects since our last meeting. He reported that LSU has a strategy to replace its aging Tezpur computer with a more modern high-performance computer that incorporates two major design modifications intended to provide accelerated performance and support a broader range of computational science applications. LSU is in the process of obtaining bids for the new unit and, hopefully, will be procuring, installing and making it functional by summer of this year.

Dr. Les Guice said that there have been industry/university workshops which are tied to the computational material sciences related to the LA-SiGMA project, and that there is an Industry-Academia Workshop for Biosciences planned to be held in New Orleans on April 15-16. It will have national speakers and industry panels and will be addressing the computational issues and challenges related to those emerging technologies.

A network update (attached) was then presented by Mr. Lonnie Leger, Director of Networking and he highlighted the major events. The first new 10G internet connection under the State's new internet service contracts was completed this week. The Board of Regents has recently secured a delegation of authority from the Office of Telecommunications Management to proceed with the RFP for the new fiber installation to Xavier. The RFP is under development and should be proceeding shortly. Likewise, a delegation of authority has been obtained for beginning the process of bringing fiber to Nicholls State University. In response to questions regarding band-width demand, Mr. Leger reported that at the end of last year demand was approximately 3.6G of capacity, but that continues to grow and as of today there is in excess of 5G being consumed. It is expected that as we transition into all the new contract arrangements for service that we are likely to reach a level of 8G capacity soon. Finally, it was reported that a new LONI staff member, Mr. John Caffery, will be starting on January 23, 2012. One additional

vacant position, which is planned for supporting services in the northern area of the state, remains open and recruitment is underway.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Mr. Donnie Vandal indicated that he is optimistic that the LONI network will have greater opportunities for development and growth in 2012. There are a variety of projects underway which we will be working on very aggressively: expanding and improving network connectivity and services, continuing support of the research community and their grants and research, pursuit of the data management project, and expanded efforts related to economic development. He expressed appreciation to Mr. Todd Barre' and Mrs. Uma Subramanian of the Board of Regents staff for their help on executing the LONI operating contract.

PUBLIC EVENTS

LONI will host the Internet 2 and Joint Techs Conference January 20-28 at Pennington Biomedical Center.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before LONI Management Council, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m. Mr. McMahon reminded everyone that the next meeting will be April 10, 2012.