

MINUTES

LOUISIANA OPTICAL NETWORK INITIATIVE MANAGEMENT COUNCIL July 12, 2005

The Louisiana Optical Network Initiative (LONI) Management Council (MC) met at 2:10 p.m., Tuesday, July 12, 2005, in the 6th floor Board of Regents Conference Room in the Claiborne Building, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Chair Les Guice called the meeting to order. The roll was called and a quorum was established.

Council Members Present:

Les Guice, Chair
Duane Blumberg
Steve Landry
John Lawson, Vice Chair
Ed Seidel
Harold Silverman
Jeffery Smith
Greg Speyrer
Victor Ukpolo
Donald Vandal

Council Members Absent:

David Nicklas, Secretary/Treasurer
Laura Levy
Michael Stubblefield
Joel Tohline

Guests:

Mike Abbiatti, Board of Regents
Carl Brandt, LSU
Pam Brue, SUBR
Gerry Catalano, IBM
Dave Crockett, IBM
Robert Grenveld, Bell South
Lonnie Leger, Board of Regents
Brian Voss, LSU
Angie Welch, IBM

APPROVAL OF JUNE 14, 2005, MINUTES

On motion of Dr. Lawson, seconded by Dr. Smith, the LONI Management Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2005 LONI Management Council Meeting.

APPROVAL OF JUNE 28, 2005, MINUTES

On motion of Dr. Lawson, seconded by Mr. Speyrer, the LONI Management Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the June 28, 2005 LONI Management Council Meeting.

NLR AND LONI MC LEADERSHIP BRIEFING

Mike Abbiatti began by telling the Council about the possible merger of Internet2 and National LambdaRail (NLR). He told the Council that a committee of eight individuals has been officially appointed by the boards of both Internet2 and NLR to develop a merger strategy. Next, he told the Council that they should be pleased to have such a strong and accomplished team leading a significant effort and that each member will bring a wealth of experience within the research and education community; as well as, bring a commitment to the mission and goals of the community to ensure a most comprehensive and inclusive strategic plan. He stated that the objective of the merger is to put into place an organization that will provide the research and education community in the United States with greater access to experimental networking facilities and cutting-edge Internet applications and services.

Next, Dr. Guice told the Council that they need an action team to work with Mike Abbiatti and Kevin Hardy to accommodate the NLR Board meeting and reception to be held September 8 and 9 in Baton Rouge. Dr. Guice then asked for volunteers to help. Mr. Speyrer (I don't recall him volunteering for this, but maybe) -. Dr. Guice requested that a task group of Mike Abbiatti, Kevin Hardy, Joel Tohline, Lonnie Leger, a representative of LSU CCT and any other interested volunteers to bring some ideas back to the next meeting.

CHIEF ADVISOR REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

Dr. Landry told the Council that all the fiber contracts were released the end of June. Next, he told the Council that there are plans being developed to have a team at LSU do the

fiber work on the campuses. He also told the Council that the technical team is looking at the bids to close the loops and that some bids have routes with above-ground fiber, but alternatives are being considered.

Next, he told the Council that the IBM P-5's are still scheduled to arrive the first week of August and that they are waiting on the final delivery dates for the rest of the fiber electronics. Also, he mentioned that they are working on a contract with LSU for staffing the network operations

Next, Dr. Ed. Siedel, Chief Scientific Advisor, told the Council that he and other scientific advisors have been working on functional requirements for LONI and they had derived a list of tasks that would be required for LONI's day-to-day operations. Also, he told the Council that they had developed ideas about a phased implementation plan for staffing.

Next, Dr. Duane Blumberg, Chief Economic Advisor, told the Council that when talking about LONI people are generally aware of LONI. The question is always asked what LONI is, how can a company interface with it, and if there will be someone to help companies who join with LONI? Next, he told the Council that most companies are very concerned about data security with the use of LONI and that this is something that will need to be addressed.

LONG-TERM LONI MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Next, Dr. Guice stated that he would like to use a group of people to assist in reviewing and enhancing the business plans for LONI. He mentioned that that the group would bring a host of experience to the management strategies because they had all been involved in similar projects. He asked the Council if they would be available on August 1 and 2 to meet with the group. Most members of the Council acknowledged that there schedules would allow for them to meet with the advisors if the activities could be scheduled

for August 1-2. Other dates may have to be considered based upon the availability of the advisors.

Dr. Guice told the Council that he had continued to revise the Statements of Purpose for LONI based upon discussions since the last meeting, and they should look over the new version provided to them in their folders and make suggestions for improvement. He noted that Mr. Speyrer had recommended statements about teaching and learning that were now included in the document.

MOTION

No motions were made.

PUBLIC EVENTS

Dr. Ukpolo from Southern University told the Council that Southern would be having a LONI Symposium on October 21, 2005. Dr. Guice told the Council that others should consider having a symposium as well. Next, Mr. Abbiatti told the Council that they should check with him about dates and times to make sure two symposiums were not going on at the same time.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the LONI Management Council, on motion of Dr. Blumberg, seconded by Greg Speyrer, the meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.