

Dear EGEE-III project members,

Welcome, already, to the second year of EGEE-III. The project's first birthday has been a time of intense activity, as we focus in greater detail on transition planning to the European Grid Initiative (EGI).

As mentioned in April's letter, a questionnaire to investigate the feasibility of a **project extension** was circulated to EGEE partners and feedback received by 20 April. Based on a preliminary analysis of the responses, the PMB is not anticipating an extension but the final decision will be taken in September.

Athens hosted the first meeting of groups interested in forming **Specialised Support Centres** (SSCs). SSCs form part of the EGI model to support user communities and will fall within the scope of an upcoming EU funding call. Two distinct types of SSC emerged from the meeting: Science SSCs typically building on the work of the current NA4 clusters, and Support SSCs such as those that could help new communities - which might include elements of the training, dissemination and business activities from within NA3 and NA2. A further meeting is planned on 1 July in Paris for these groups, and others involved in EGI proposals, to present workplans for broader discussion.

In parallel, the EGI_DS Management Board has **nominated candidates** for the coordination of the EGI project proposal Editorial Board and the interim EGI.eu Project Director (the latter being necessary to lead the preparations for the migration to the EGI.eu construct). The following persons have been agreed:

- Laura Perini, INFN, Italy, coordinator of the EGI project proposal Editorial Board focusing on Operations and the EGI.eu construct part/proposal,
- Charles (Cal) Loomis, LAL/IN2P3, France coordinator of the EGI project proposal Editorial Board focusing on the Applications and Scientific Support Cluster part/proposal,
- Steven Newhouse, CERN, as the interim EGI.eu Project Director.

This is a very report-heavy time for the project, no less than 14 deliverables are in preparation (*collective sigh*), which will provide details regarding the health of the project at the end of its first year and plans for the second.

Much has already been prepared for the upcoming **European Commission review** of the project in June (24-25), full details of which will be made available this month. Please note that due to space constraints, registration for the event will unfortunately be limited to invited representatives of the consortium. Two sets of rehearsals are planned to help us prepare well, on 3-4 June and 17 June. In order to accommodate an upcoming EU Information Day on 18, the review dress rehearsal will take place on a single day, 17 June, instead of over two days as previously announced.

In a few months' time our community will gather for the last EGEE conference. We are pleased to announce that **registration for the EGEE'09 Barcelona**, has just opened: <http://egee09.eu-egee.org/?id=630>. Be among the first to register to secure the best prices and hotel spots.

As usual the conference will host an exhibition area. In this we are especially seeking participation from application communities, national grid infrastructures, software providers and collaborating projects to show their engagement with and use of all the European e-infrastructures – not just those involved in EGEE. Exhibits around the conference theme – “Uniting our strengths to realise the sustainable European grid” – would be especially welcome. Details on how to obtain exhibition space are available from the EGEE09 web site now. We encourage a wide participation in the event and the exhibition, particularly from the emerging NGIs and proposed SSCs.



This final EGEE conference will mark a turning point in the transition to EGI: a time for NGIs and SSCs to gain visibility and form close contacts with their user communities and showcase their activities within a single event.

A call for session proposals has just opened (<http://indico.cern.ch/conferenceCFA.py?confid=55893>). The conference programme committee will review proposals and expects to have a draft programme available by mid-June.

Looking further ahead, the location for the 5th and final EGEE user forum has been chosen. The event will take place in Uppsala, Sweden on the 12-16 April 2010. The event will be organized by the Swedish EGEE partner SNIC with its Stockholm (PDC) and Uppsala (UPPMAX) centers supported by Uppsala University and the city of Uppsala.

Lastly, be sure to remember that EGEE is teaming up with SpringerLink, publishers of the Journal of Grid Computing, to produce a special issue: "EGEE applications and supporting technologies." This will give an opportunity to the 96 oral presenters at the User Forum in Catania, to prepare a full paper describing their work, which will be reviewed by their peers. The deadline for submission is 31 July 2009. (<http://www.springer.com/computer/communications/journal/10723?detailsPage=journalAimsAndScopesAimsAndScopes>)

Nothing remains but for me to wish you an enjoyable spring and a productive month... summer holidays are just around the corner!

Yours sincerely,



Bob Jones
EGEE-III Project Director



The following events are organised by EGEE or will feature important EGEE contributions. For further related events please see www.isgtw.org.

Month	Event	LINK
June	3-5, Linux Days 2009 , Geneva, Switzerland	http://2009.linuxdays.ch
	9-12, 23rd European Conference on Modelling and Simulation , Madrid, Spain	http://www.scs-europe.net/conf/ecms2009
	15, GMAC'09: Workshop Grids Meets Autonomic Computing , Barcelona, Spain	http://www.frombarcelona.org/GRIDmeetsAC
	23-26, ISCO9 International Supercomputing Conference , Hamburg, Germany	http://www.supercomp.de/isc09
July	28-1 July, HealthGrid09 , Berlin, Germany	http://berlin2009.healthgrid.org
	5-17, International Summer School in Grid Computing , Sophia Antipolis, France	http://www.issgc.org
	16-17, 2nd BELIEF II International Symposium , São Paulo, Brazil	http://www.beliefproject.org/events/2nd-belief-international-symposium

If you are organising EGEE-related events that you would like to publicise here please email Neasan O'Neill at n.oneill@qmul.ac.uk

