Dear EGEE-III project members,

Trusting that you've returned from your summer holidays well relaxed (and not too sunburned) it is my pleasure to bring you the latest on the progress of the project, as we follow up on the first year review of the project and prepare for the annual conference in Barcelona.

This week at CERN the Activity Management Board met over two days to discuss the recommendations we received from the EC-appointed reviewers last June.

Some points covered included ways to best
  -highlight the message of continuity to our users,
  -streamline the software development processes,
  -build a network of accredited trainers ready for EGI,
  -publicise the 'seed resources' more widely,
  -ensure the metrics we gather reflect the user experience,
  -advance the IPv6 support and
  -examine why MPI deployment is not more widespread.

These points are now integrated in to our planning for the second year.

Otherwise, preparations are accelerating in advance of EGEE'09 in Barcelona. With more than 500 participants already registered it is sure to be an exciting event. If you haven't done so, you can still register online until September 14 at **http://egee09.eu-egee.org**.

The finalised program is now online so you can build your personal schedule in Barcelona. Particular highlights to look for include our keynote speakers: Kostas Glinos from the Directorate General for Information Society and Media at the European Commission, Jennifer Schopf from the Office of CyberInfrastructure at the National Science Foundation, John Wood, chair of the European Research Area Board and former chair of the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI), to mention a few. Further keynotes will give you the up to-date story on EGI, how the NGIs are working towards the federated model, what is happening with the middleware and formation of the specialised support centres for user communities.

Eleven ESFRI projects will be present to discuss their science and computing needs, in addition to more than 25 collaborating projects. I will be convening two special sessions, **ESFRI & e-Infrastructure Collaborations,** focusing on the ESFRI projects: one on Monday, 17:00 – 19:00, the second on Tuesday, 11:00 – 13:00. These sessions will be interesting for all who are either involved in ESFRI projects, or would like to find out more about how grid computing can support large-scale pan-European projects. The EC and NSF will also have a special session on Monday where they will present their future programmes and be soliciting your input on how Europe and the USA can collaborate closer in the future.

All EGEE's activities have sessions organised including the dissemination team, in partnership with GridTalk, who will present two practical, hands-on sessions: **Your Tubes: grids, new media and video** and **From abstract to international news story**. The 'Your Tubes' workshop, Tuesday 14:30 – 16:30 will help researchers to practice presenting their work in front of the camera with feedback on how to get their message across clearly and succinctly. The second session, Wednesday 14:30 – 16:30 discusses how to turn a conference abstract into a potentially international news story, with insights from scientists who have worked successfully with the media, and a journalist from the *New Scientist* to give the press pack's point of view.

Leading up to and during the conference week there are many ways to follow the hot news. Don't miss the conference blog on **www.gridcast.org.** Share your photos from the event by uploading them to Flickr.com and tagging them "egee09". These will show up in the project's photo feed (**www.flickr.com/photos/egee**). EGEE tweets (**http://twitter.com/enablinggrids**) – do you? Tag your posts "#egee". And be sure to stop by the EGEE booth at the event for free goodies.

For those of you not able to join us, look for all the news from Barcelona in the post conference EGEE newsletter.

Otherwise, see you in Barcelona!

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
October	12-17, Architectures, tools and methodologies for developing large scale scientific computing applications, Bertinoro, Italy	web.infn.it/esc09/index.php
	26-28, 5th International Workshop on Grid Computing for Complex Problems, Bratislava, Slovakia	conference.ui.sav.sk/gccp2009
November	14-20, Supercomputing 09, Portland, Oregon, USA	sc09.supercomputing.org

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