

Dear EGEE project members,

I write you from the end of a month, the end of a project and the end of an era. And, equally, I write you on the cusp of a new month and a new era. On April 30th the project Enabling Grids for E-science will officially end. Far from being an occasion for mourning, however, we have much to celebrate as we usher in an operational European Grid Infrastructure. This long-term organisation is dedicated to supporting National Grid Initiatives, the building blocks of the pan-European Grid, as they operate the infrastructure which has been built and nurtured through the projects DataGrid, EGEE-I, -II and -III. This transition is an important step in providing the European research community with a computing infrastructure for many years to come.

Many of us celebrated this transition together at the 5th EGEE User Forum in Uppsala this month. We made important strides towards our goal of giving EGI the best possible start. The EGI council officially elected Steven Newhouse to be the EGI director. If you are keen to receive news announcements from EGI, register at <https://www.egi.eu/sso/email>. EGI is still putting its senior staff in place, the first round of appointments will be announced in early May. (The remaining available posts will be listed on <https://www.egi.eu/cms/about/jobs>.)

Though EGI leadership will be settling in to place over the next two months, its daily operations are assured. For users – unless you have been explicitly told otherwise – everything will remain as before. The operational tools and support contacts you have been using, you can continue to use. The standard daily operations are assured. In practical terms for users, the contacts and tools for operations and support all remain the same.

Returning to the User Forum, we enjoyed a vibrant scientific program. Two press releases issued during the week highlighted work in the life sciences and interoperability (link to EGEE press room: <http://eu-egee.org/index.php?id=228>). In the closing plenary session Vangelis Floros of GRNET and Chair of the Programme Committee announced the winners of the best demo and poster competitions, as voted for by delegates. The winner of Demo Session 1 was "neuGRID- a grid brained Infrastructure to understand and defeat Brain diseases," awarded to David Manset of maatG and Yannick Legre of HealthGrid. You can watch the GridCast video of the demo at <http://gridtalk-project.blogspot.com/2010/04/healthgrid-demonstration.html>. NeuGrid's own video is on YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fpfD6GZ90tQ>.

Marcin Plociennik of PSNC and Milan Prica of Sincrotrone Trieste took home the prize for Demo Session 2 with "Applications using Remote Instrumentation in Grid environment DORII project." The favourite poster selected by delegates was "Programming gLite without an UI" by Maximilian Berger of University of Innsbruck and Thomas Zangerl of KTH. My congratulations to all the winners, thank you for the quality of your work. I hope you have all finally managed to return home from Uppsala following the travel chaos caused by the eruption of the Eyjafjallajökull in Iceland.

While the project officially ends this week, there is nonetheless some additional work to be done including the final deliverables, reporting and cost claims. The project's final review will be held in Amsterdam, June 23-24, with the face to face rehearsal scheduled at CERN on 16 June. The Project office is making arrangements to allow EGEE-III project members to have continued access to the various computing tools through to the end of June and an email on this subject will be distributed shortly.

I know that many of you, however, will be moving on to different projects and endeavours. In Amsterdam, EGI will host its first technical forum September 14-17. Many of us will likely meet again there.

I would like, then, to offer my gratitude and appreciation to all EGEE members over the years for your hard work and dedication. As this is the last director's letter, I would like to thank Danielle Venton, who has turned my thoughts into something worth reading every month. It was excellent to see you in Uppsala and join together in celebrating the new era. Good bye and all the best.

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
May	17-20, 10th IEEE/ACM International Symposium on Cluster, Cloud and Grid Computing, Melbourne, Australia	http://www.manirasoft.com/ccgrid2010/
June	7, GMAC 2010, Virginia, USA	http://gmac2010.lri.fr/index.php/GMAC_2010
	7-11. 7th IEEE International Conference on Autonomic Computing and Communications,	http://www.cis.fiu.edu/conferences/icac2010/
	21-25, HPC 2010, Cetraro, Italy	http://www.hpcc.unical.it/hpc2010/
	22, Challenges of Large Applications in Distributed Environments, Chicago Illinois, USA	http://sites.google.com/site/clade2010/
	28-30, HealthGrid 2010, Orsay, France	http://paris2010.healthgrid.org/
	29 June - 02 July, 14th World Multi-Conference on Systemics, Cybernetics and Informatics, Orlando, Florida, USA	http://www.iis2010.org/wmsci

