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LONI to Welcome First TeraGrid Users

BATON ROUGE, La., Jan. 30 -- Beginning Friday, Feb. 1, the Louisiana Optical Network Initiative, or LONI, will integrate its centerpiece supercomputer, Queen Bee, into the TeraGrid, a nationwide, National Science Foundation-funded research infrastructure that incorporates high-performance computing resources across the country.

The National Science Foundation, or NSF, selected LONI in September to become a TeraGrid partner as a new resource provider, and Louisiana officially joined TeraGrid Oct. 1, 2007. LONI will contribute one half of Queen Bee's computational cycles to support the national research community.

In exchange, NSF is providing \$2.2 million in funding for additional support of the machine and the new set of users, and funding for additional network connections from LONI to the rest of the TeraGrid. This partnership will give LONI researchers an easier path to make use of additional national supercomputing capabilities through the TeraGrid.

"This partnership further demonstrates the major impact that LONI is having in advancing Louisiana's stature in the national research community," said LONI Management Council chairman Les Guice.

LSU's Center for Computation & Technology, or CCT, a LONI partner through the Louisiana Board of Regents, has done the work necessary to integrate Queen Bee with the TeraGrid. The initial national TeraGrid users will begin using Queen Bee Feb. 1.

"The TeraGrid partnership helps support our local supercomputing resources while contributing to a backbone of national cyberinfrastructure, and it helps our Louisiana users make use of other national resources," said Daniel S. Katz, director for cyberinfrastructure at the CCT, who oversaw the integration.

LONI is one of only 11 nationwide NSF-selected TeraGrid partners. The others are Indiana University, the National Center for Atmospheric Research, the National Center for Supercomputing Applications, the National Institute for Computational Sciences, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center, Purdue University, San Diego Supercomputer Center, Texas Advanced Computing Center, and the University of Chicago/Argonne National Laboratory.

## **About LONI**

The Louisiana Optical Network Initiative is a state-of-the-art fiber optics network that runs throughout Louisiana, and connects Louisiana and Mississippi research universities to one another as well as National LambdaRail and Internet2. LONI provides Louisiana researchers with one of the most advanced optical networks in the country and the most powerful distributed supercomputer resources available to any academic community with over 85 teraflops of

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computational capacity. Additional information may be found online at www.loni.org.

## **About Tera Grid**

TeraGrid is an open scientific discovery infrastructure combining leadership class resources at nine partner sites to create an integrated, persistent computational resource. Using high-performance network connections, the TeraGrid integrates high-performance computers, data resources and tools, and high-end experimental facilities around the country. Currently, TeraGrid resources include more than 250 teraflops of computing capability and more than 30 petabytes of online and archival data storage, with rapid access and retrieval over high-performance networks. Researchers can also access more than 100 discipline-specific databases. With this combination of resources, the TeraGrid is the world's largest, most comprehensive distributed cyberinfrastructure for open scientific research. TeraGrid is coordinated through the Grid Infrastructure Group (GIG) at the University of Chicago, working in partnership with the Resource Provider sites: Indiana University, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, National Center for Supercomputing Applications, Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center, Purdue University, San Diego Supercomputer Center, Texas Advanced Computing Center, University of Chicago/Argonne National Laboratory, and the National Center for Atmospheric Research. Additional information may be found online, <a href="https://www.teragrid.org">www.teragrid.org</a>.

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Source: LSU Center for Computation & Technology

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