

## **Internet2 Task Force on Expectations for Internet2 Member Campuses**

**Chair: William Decker, University of Iowa**

The Internet2 Task Force on Expectations for Internet2 Member Campuses is convened under the auspices of the Advisory Councils of Internet2, led by the Applications Strategy Council and the Network Planning and Policy Advisory Council. Its principal purpose is to articulate a current set of expectations for what it means to be an Internet2 member campus, in light of the Internet2 community's goal to promote and enable advanced applications. When Internet2 was formed, the expectation for University members was investment in local infrastructure at the level of at least .5 million annually. The work undertaken by the Internet2 community in the subsequent 8 years – in infrastructure development, advanced network services, core middleware, end-to-end performance, security, common collaboration tools, and more – has produced a much richer set of capabilities for support of research, teaching and learning.

At the same time, it is apparent that many faculty and researchers still experience significant barriers in creating and using advanced applications. The barriers include incomplete extension of high-speed switched networks to the desktop/office/lab; lack of ubiquitous help identifying and solving performance problems; lack of well-integrated and easy-to-use tools for human collaboration; lack of secure, authenticated access to data and resources; and incomplete implementation of multicast and IPv6 on campus networks. Most of these issues have little to do with network capacity or throughput.

The task force should consider focusing on what the campus infrastructure needs to be 2-5 years out in order to support the advanced applications on the horizon. The group will identify a set of best practices in a variety of areas that taken together can serve as a profile of the ideal Internet2 member campus. The areas considered should include campus network configurations, campus directory implementations, privilege management, data storage, image transfer/management, computation, security, campus bandwidth management, collaboration environments, and others. The task force should also consider the responsibilities that come with supporting sponsored participants and SEGPs. These best practices will be promulgated among Internet2 members and can be used by each campus to measure its progress in lowering the barriers to creation and use of advanced applications. A series of case studies that illustrate the best practices of campuses in resolving these issues will also be created. Ideally, these case studies will show how increased capabilities have paid off in attracting research dollars, top faculty, and other competitive indicators. The task force should work to produce guidelines rather than prescriptive responsibilities, recognizing that not all campuses have the same resources or the same needs. The task force should collaborate wherever possible with other similar groups, e.g., the Internet2/EDUCAUSE Security Task Force.

The task force will be responsible for:

- Developing a concise, well-defined list of advanced technology areas and applications that campuses should manage and support including, where possible, a forecast of where each area is heading and what to track over time
- Compiling information on where best practices have been developed for campus implementations in these areas
- Consulting broadly with different constituencies to draw on a range of knowledge and expertise
- Sponsoring the creation of a series of case studies that illustrate how a variety of campuses have addressed these areas
- Recommending information and educational programs to support the promulgation of task force outcomes

The task force members will be jointly appointed by the chairs of the ASC and NPPAC from recommendations. The members should broadly represent and/or seek input from a broad range of constituency groups, including but not limited to CIOs, application developers, GigaPoP operators, network engineers, support staff, faculty, researchers and other users. The Task Force will be supported by Internet2 staff. The task force will be identified and convened during the first quarter of 2005. It will gather input and report on progress at the Spring 2005 Member Meeting, and complete its work by the Fall 2005 Member Meeting.