



Education and Outreach Activities

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LIGO-G010389-00-Z

iVDGL Kick-off Meeting 2001.10.17

LSC Member Institution (UT Brownsville)

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- GriPhyN funded in Fall 2000.
- UT Brownsville to coordinate E/O; ties with LIGO.
- Administration approved hiring a full-time faculty member to serve as GriPhyN E/O coordinator.
- Manuela Campanelli hired, to start Fall 2001.
 - » Attended GGF1 and GriPhyN All-Hands meetings.
 - » Made contacts with heads of dissemination programs for European data grid projects (e.g., DataGrid, EuroGrid).
 - » Helped prepare the iVDGL proposal, which increases MSI participation by constructing small clusters (e.g., Tier3 centers) at these institutions.
- 96-node Linux cluster at UTB (primarily for LIGO data analysis, but also a testbed for GriPhyN software).

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Activities/Plans

- Web-page for GriPhyN/iVDGL E/O activities:
 - » http://www.aei-potsdam.mpg.de/~manuela/GridWeb/main.html
 - » Basic educational material about data grids, information about the physics experiments, etc.
 - » Add technical support information (e.g., documentation, users manuals, "how-to" guides) as virtual data toolkits become ready.
 - » Add web-based interface for accessing real data, illustrating some concepts of virtual data (e.g., http://skyserver.sdss.org and http://virtualsky.org websites).
- Proposal for an REU supplement:
 - » Support undergraduate students doing grid-related research at GriPhyN/iVDGL institutions during the summer.
 - » Who is interested to mentor students? What projects?
- Grid-enable UTB cluster:
 - » Install Condor, Globus, gridftp, ...
 - » Work with UW Milwaukee as part of LI GO-GriPhyN.

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Activities/Plans

- Increase MSI participation:
 - » Tier3 centers at UTB, Hampton U, and Salish Kootenai College.
 - » Hold "how-to" workshops/tutorials at the Tier3 centers.
 - » GriPhyN/iVDGL E/O "Day" or All-Hands meeting at a MSI.
 - » GriPhyN/iVDGL researchers give grid-related talks at other MSI s.
- Leverage existing E/O programs:
 - » QuarkNet centers (e.g., Indiana, U Florida, UT Arlington, Hampton): incorporate grid-related components into already existing activities.
 - » EOT-PACI: work with Valerie Taylor (PI of Coalition to Diversify Computing project) to link E/O activities.
 - » ThinkQuest: special challenge projects based on application sciences and grid technology; provide "sandbox" CPUs, interesting data sets.
- Include grid concepts in courses we are teaching.

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