

**CE-PAG Notes - PUBLIC**  
**Wednesday - 3/24/2021**

**Agenda**

- **Brief Updates**
  - In the future, we may ask this group to review meeting minutes in our [Google folder](#) before posting online
  - Sustaining Contribution (Update - Mike)
    - Thank you for PAG input to Howard and Jay at the last meeting, and your guidance that we should communicate regarding a potential increase soon.
    - Draft communication regarding the intent to not exceed a 1.5% increase has been shared with the Finance and Audit Committee and the Board. Both support moving ahead in notifying higher education member CIOs.
    - Communication will be sent tomorrow (03/25) to all CIOs.
    - Only includes HE at this time - Industry and Affiliate member increases for 2021 still to be determined.
    - Working on having all billing contacts receive notifications of changes as well.
  - DEI Engagement - I2I Initiatives (Mike)
    - Suggested acronym update: **DEIB = Diversity Equity Inclusion and Belonging**
    - Mike will share a doc with more details on events planned for 2021
      - <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xYRealugs1kpZnEdmPgwa4wpGI8Y6S9Y/view?usp=sharing>
      - April 29: Laurie Burns McRobbie facilitating conversation with three of our previous I2I scholarship recipients
      - May 18: Avis Yates Rivers hosting a second conversation about race and diversity. Open to the full I2 community.
      - #IAMREMARKABLE workshop offered by Google - I2 staff taking training on facilitating these workshops to share with broader community
      - NCWIT Tech Inclusion Journey - timing TBD but we hope to facilitate a conversation around that for the community
    - Q: Have you reached out to the Internet2 community re: best practices and how to engage communities within their own institutions?
      - We haven't put anything tangible together that we can offer

- Operating in a pandemic forced us to concentrate on awareness, and elevate conversations on these types of topics. It's now likely a good time for the more practical and action-able things as suggested.
- **HBCU, TCU, MSI Engagement (Ana)**
  - Dr. Deborah Dent is on the MS-CC (Minority Serving Cyberinfrastructure Consortium) and we'd like to share this CONFIDENTIAL draft of what we're going to present to the Board of Trustees next week. Dr. Damian Clarke and I will be co-presenting these updates to the Board
    - *Ana emailed draft of Executive Summary @12:21pm 3/24/21 - please keep confidential*
  - Link to the most recent webinar from March 18, 2021  
<https://internet2.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=959abd2c-3890-4174-b748-acef014fd62d>
  - Deborah - The consortium started in 2018 as a result of an NSF grant that belonged to Clemson. They brought a set of HBCUs together and we discovered many of us were writing proposals for NSF grants, but were not having success. We began sharing/gathering in grant-writing workshops, and we continued to find value in our collaborations so we formed MS-CC. We believed (and still believe) that "we can do more together than we can do apart". We didn't just want it to be limited to HBCUs, we wanted to include all minority-serving institutions. Internet2 got involved and helped us move forward towards a real mission and real goal(s).
    - The first thing we did with Internet2's help was the survey
    - Then we started hosting webinars and I've received many messages about interest in joining the MS-CC
    - We're also looking at funding opportunities. Internet2 can submit proposals on behalf of the consortium, which is very helpful because it was always a debate as to which school would submit proposals and receive funds to allocate to the rest of us
  - We hope you'll be able to join us at our next webinar in April, timing & details TBD
    - Very happy to see this, especially excited that cyberinfrastructure is involved. Does the MS-CC include Asian Pacific institutions? It's one of the fastest growing demographics and I don't really see them represented anywhere
      - Not yet but we can take it back to the group

- This is great. We tried to dig into the possibility of sharing cyber data at a previous institution and it didn't work, so it's good to see this coming together. Can't wait to work with you on it
  - What do you need from us (CE-PAG)?
    - Ana: Awareness. Right now the MS-CC is concentrating on developing a successful proposal for an NSF grant. Pending discussion with the Internet2 BoT, this CE PAG group will be essential in broadening participation. This might be a recurring topic to keep the CE PAG apprised, especially if Internet2 someday reimagines what it is to be a "member"
- **Policy landscape update (John Morabito)**
  - Internet2 is focused on R&E, Higher Ed, broadband, K-12
  - Two major bills that have passed in Congress recently - one in December (2020), and one in March (2021). These two together add up to more than half a trillion dollars available, 20% of that could be applicable in our community. The money will be distributed in many many different ways. In general, the money we're focused on is meant to support online education. FYI Clyburn has another bill for \$80-100B specifically for broadband
  - Are we able to get a written synopsis of the detailed dollar amounts and breakdowns you shared with us today?
    - Yes, will assemble a community summary
  - We're already advocating for last mile connectivity, for broadband in underserved areas, etc. How do we expand efforts / take advantage of these opportunities as a community?
    - John: We have to narrow our focus and pick something to go after
    - The Shelby Coalition has a higher ed group. Residential access for learners is important, that's within their wheelhouse. Given the sheer volume of money out there, is this a good time to partner with them?
      - John: We can, but they won't pick up on quantum sciences and computer language
    - Think about other partners or affiliates (like EDUCAUSE) who also may be struggling with sifting through all of this to get to something that's manageable
      - John: We have an External Relations PAG that considers some of those partnering opportunities
    - The incumbent carriers are the ones with resources, personnel, lobbying to go after funds, so the majority of the money will likely go to a small set

of known carriers. Does the R&E community have opportunities that avoid this situation?

- John: A lot of the money focuses on underserved and unserved areas. Big companies aren't going to rural communities because they can't afford their operating expenses. Commercial providers are scared, they don't want anyone to overbill their territory. There could be big opportunities for all of us here, but we have to think about them *now*
- The group would like to invite John back periodically to provide updates
- **PAG Working Group re: Membership (Mike)**
  - Working Group assembled, members include Carrie, Brice, Sam and Cort. Haven't met yet, but planning to do so before next CE PAG meeting April 28
  - 3 main things we'll be focusing on
    - 1. Consider opportunities for leveraging the benefits of diversity in the makeup of CE PAG membership
    - 2. Consider the value of fresh perspectives / voices within the CE PAG and potential ways to realize that value
    - 3. How can we ensure voices and perspectives of all Internet2 members / member types receive consideration?
  - Feedback:
    - Looking at this group (PAG) right now, we're all mostly CIOs. Would like this working group to think about including the next wave of colleagues
    - Let's be sure to include details like member length ("term cycle"), change frequency, etc
    - Are all Internet2 PAGs considering this type of diversity within the membership?
      - There are operational processes in place that address #1 and #2 to ensure a continual refresh of voices. PAGs determine their operations individually
      - The intention in the past has been to have more consistency across the PAGs, but it hasn't necessarily happened. We could benefit from a more directed approach. We shouldn't be the only PAG that has the next generation included in our group. Could be a great topic for the PAG REP group to discuss at their next meeting
      - Many CIOs don't even know their up-and-coming leaders have the opportunity to participate with a PAG. Let's think about how we

get the word out (ex: email 1x/year to nominate someone for a PAG)

● ~~2021 Virtual Engagement Strategy (Glenn)~~ → **Moved to April's meeting**

- Apologies, Glenn is out unexpectedly so we can only offer a very high level update
- We got a good response from the community survey. Based on the feedback received, we've been crafting cycles on engagement for the rest of this year
- The survey results are a great tool, and keep in mind that those opinions are from a very specific point in time. Thoughts on convening face-to-face are likely to shift when we do this survey again, especially thinking about vaccine availability. Every state and every institution is in a different place. Internet2 has not negotiated any contracts for a large convening face-to-face this year
- What are the group's opinions on meeting face-to-face? What are the factors?
  - We are still on travel lockdown both through our institution and the state's guidelines. Our budget "bucket" for travel isn't full either
  - We're also following the state's guidelines, and it'll be closer to the end of the calendar year before all the pieces are in place that make people open to travel
  - Fear and anxiety may be guiding institutional policies, combined with additional financial burdens will significantly delay comfort in traveling
  - Our state is open, but our institution is being very cautious. Budgets are keeping our people from traveling until at least the fall or end of the calendar year
  - There are 3 major factors: Budget, COVID and the individual person. Most of our staff is fully vaccinated but now there's a psychological barrier involved with getting back out there
  - Ana: Thank you for sharing. We will concentrate on qualitative virtual offerings, while attempting to avoid virtual burn out. I2 has made no commitments to hosting face-to-face events this year
- We'll invite Glenn to join us at the next meeting to cover this more in depth.