



New Mexico Computing Applications Center

NMCAC Newsletter

Spring, 2009

Two New Collaborators for the NMCAC



Rio Rancho – Governor Bill Richardson proudly took the podium on February 17th and announced the first of two new commercial collaborations with the NMCAC. Cerelink Digital Media Group and Cerelink Digital Labs, based in Corrales, have teamed up with Dreamworks Animation SKG, Inc. to use the Center’s resources to transform still images into digital animation. In addition to utilizing the State’s supercomputer with its extensive processing capabilities, the project is expected to create 30 new jobs. Cerelink uses broadband internet connections and sophisticated technologies to achieve innovative solutions that deliver economic value to an impressive client base of users. The Governor also recognized the second collaborator, Insigniam Innovation Discovery Center (IIDC) also of Corrales, NM. Mr. Lee Akay, CEO of IIDC announced that his company would use Encanto to improve healthcare in the State. IIDC expects to create 60 new jobs.

Reaching out to New Mexico’s Communities



Since December, our outreach team of Stephan Helgesen, Lorie Liebrock and Mary Ann Scott has visited six future Gateway sites (Española, Las Vegas, Roswell, Hobbs, Portales and Silver City) and presented the Center’s plans for launching interactive Gateways. Designed to connect rural and urban New Mexico and to stimulate interest in computing as a career, the Gateways will also encourage STEM education and vocational

training. Additionally, they will be used to support small businesses through videoconferencing and other cost-saving measures. Our hosts at the community colleges and universities could not have been more hospitable, and we would like to take the opportunity to thank all the wonderful folks that gave us such a warm welcome. Special thanks to:

Dr. Sonia Cowen and Robert Einhorn at NMMI and Gene Simmons and Carolyn Arias of the SBDC in Roswell; President Steve McCleery and Dr. Robert Bensing of NM Junior College in Hobbs; President Steven Gamble and VP Ronnie Birdsong of Eastern NM University in Portales and Dr. Sandra Taylor-Sawyer of the SBDC in Clovis; President Jose Griego and Dr. Andres Salazar of Northern NM College along with Julianna Barbee of the Espanola SBDC; President Jim Fries and Chief Information Officer Max Baca of NM Highlands University along with Sharon Vander Meer of the Las Vegas San Miguel EDD; and President John Counts and VP for Economic Development Linda Kay Jones. To those we might have missed, THANK YOU!

New headquarters at Mesa del Sol

In March, the Center moved from our temporary quarters at the UNM Science and Tech Center on University Blvd. (where we were very well treated by the excellent management and staff there!) for larger space at Mesa del Sol. Please make a note of our new address which is: New Mexico Computing Applications Center, 5700 West University Blvd. SE, Suite 320, Albuquerque, NM 87106

Center Staffing

At present, the Center staff consists of:

Edmundo Gonzales, Chief Operating Officer:

Edmundo is a lawyer by training, has experience in overseeing R&D efforts in the health sector, served as the Chief Financial Officer of the U.S. Dept. of Labor under the Clinton Administration, and runs his own consulting company. Edmundo works half-time for the Center.

Tom Bowles, Science Advisor:

Tom was the Chief Science Officer at Los Alamos National Laboratory and is on assignment to Governor Richardson as his science advisor. He is the Governor's lead on the supercomputing initiative; serves part-time advising the Center on R&D efforts; and is the Chair of the NMCAC Board of Directors.

Lenny Martinez, Market Development Advisor:

Lenny is a VP of Market Development at Sandia National Laboratories on assignment to Governor Richardson as his advisor on rural economic development. Lenny has experience in the private sector and serves part-time advising the Center on potential collaborations with business.

Stephan Helgesen, Client Services and Outreach:

Stephan has 20 years of worldwide experience in the Diplomatic Service with the U.S. Commerce Department having lived and worked in Asia, the Caribbean, and Europe assisting U.S. high-tech companies develop a presence, internationally. Stephan is also the Director of the Science and Technology Division of the New Mexico Dept. of Economic Development and spends a significant portion of his time working with the Center.

Lorie Liebrock, Interim Education Director/Chief Technology Officer:

Lorie is also an Associate Professor of Computer Science at New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology and the Associate Chair for Undergraduate Affairs in the Department of Computer Science. She holds an M.S. and Ph.D. from Rice University and B.S. and M.S. from Michigan Technological University and has more than twenty five years of experience in parallel and high performance computing. Lorie is a professor at New Mexico Tech in the computer

science department and has had a great deal of experience locally and nationally in developing and promoting STEM education. Lorie serves half-time at the Center.

Tom Mills, Legal Counsel:

Tom served as legal counsel to the NM Dept of Economic Development prior to forming his own law firm and has extensive experience in working with government, business, and academia. Tom serves on a contract basis providing legal counsel to the Center.

Sue Devore, Operations Manager:

Sue is an accountant by trade and has spent most of her career as a Controller in the upper end of the Hospitality Industry. After moving to New Mexico four years ago, she branched out into the area of Human Resources, procurement and office management and is also involved in the Center's accounting.

Sharon Sanchez, Projects Manager:

Sharon has a Master's degree in Business and has ten years' of experience in setting up small businesses to run more efficiently and optimize their resources. Sharon will work on facilitating projects, assisting private companies in R&D programs that involve: energy, environment/water, biotech/health and digital film media. She is also the point of contact for the Center's network.

New Mexico Computing Applications Center Board of Directors

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