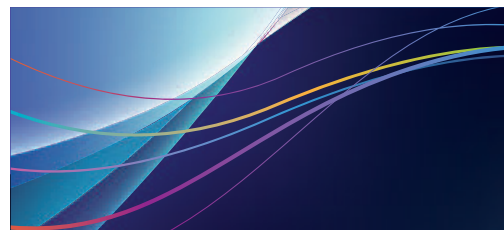


RedCLARA

November 21st, Brussels:
RedCLARA participates in the
European Policy Summit to discuss
Latin America's challenges

RedCLARA strengthens its
future vision

RedCLARA's Executive Director
receives LACNIC Achievement
Award 2011





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«The European Union is constituted by 27 member states which have decided to progressively join their practical knowledge, their resources and their destinies. Over an expansion period of 50 years, together they have built a stability, democracy and sustainable development zone, and have also preserved cultural diversity, tolerance and individual liberties. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and values with countries and peoples which are beyond its borders».

The European Commission is the executive body of the European Union.

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On the need to be innovative in the search for RedCLARA's sustainability

Álvaro de la Ossa

Director of RedCONARE, Costa Rica, and Vice-President of the Directing Council of RedCLARA

Recently, at RedCLARA's Assembly held in early November in Montevideo, Uruguay, a new Directing Council was elected to work during the next two years in the search for solutions to crucial problems for the permanence and consolidation of the cooperation of Latin America's advanced networks.

As very well expressed at that Assembly by our friend and colleague from Brazil, Nelson Simoes, before the new Council's election, the task in the years to come is critical and colossal, and all the experience and commitment of its members will be needed in order to reach the goals established. And as expressed by our friend and colleague Ida Holz in a previous editorial to this publication, despite the disparities in the development of national research and education networks (NRENs) that are part of the network, we have learnt how to walk together.

In this moment in RedCLARA's history the most critical of those goals, the one which puts it in what is probably the most difficult situation since its beginnings nine years ago, is its financial sustainability. This goal commands us to work together, this is everybody's problem, not just that of the non-profit international organisation which gives the network its legal status. And since our responsibility is shared, we must all contribute to the development of the financial sustainability mechanisms needed by RedCLARA.

The problem has many faces and to suggest a course of action which does not incorporate all of its relevant aspects can be dangerous. A wholesome vision is fundamental. Below I provide details on those aspects and I dare outline courses of action which, without being complete, i.e. without providing a solution, can offer valuable insights to get closer to a solution.

On international cooperation funds. RedCLARA and the representatives from the member NRENs have undertaken over these nine years the task of finding financial resources and conducting negotiations aimed at paving the road to the NRENs' consolidation. Their capacity in this task has been utterly attested. But the present day reality demands us to consider other elements of the solution which are necessarily outside the framework of international cooperation's funding mechanisms, that is, the aid coming from the sources that fund that cooperation is still needed and determining, but it is not perpetual, and we do not expect it to be so.

On political and commercial negotiation. RedCLARA's negotiation capacity has yielded huge profits for the member NRENs. Political negotiation, both in the field of international bodies which have supported the network's creation process as well as in national science and technology agencies in member countries, has contributed enormously by raising awareness

among public policymakers about the importance of considering advanced networks as public heritage assets.

In the final period before the completion of the ALICE2 project, we need a support similar to the one received in the Lisbon Declaration back in April and in the recommendations of the 2006 Presidential Summit, as well as in meetings and summits in subsequent years, where the need for RedCLARA's extension and permanence and the reassurance about political and financial support have been the most eloquent expressions of support from the participating authorities.

Commercial negotiation, in turn, motivated by an aggressive strategy to reduce costs for the NRENs, has substantially contributed to the development of the advanced network infrastructure with cost distribution models which are more fair and sustainable over time; in particular, the move towards the infrastructure's appropriation must give RedCLARA a respite and enough independence to continue expanding access to the network according to its users' needs.

RedCLARA's sustainability vs the NRENs' sustainability. RedCLARA's financial sustainability cannot be achieved using the same formulas that each NREN could develop in order to guarantee its own sustainability. Their problems are different because they have a different nature and mission. While in NRENs the sale of value-added services based on the use of the technologies available is a possible road towards sustainability, this is not the case of RedCLARA.

RedCLARA has done a highly praiseworthy job in the development of capacities, which in actual practice has set the tone and rhythm of activities. But the development of capacities generates greater need for resources to sustain the network. Without an effective long-term mechanism, we would have to consider the possibility of reducing RedCLARA's activities in this field.

But there are other options, of which I name a few: the membership expansion with the

resulting increase in the income generated by the corresponding fees; the creation of a heritage fund which gives independence to the network; and the access by the network to part of the excess income from the cost of services sold by the member NRENs. All these strategies, some under discussion within the network, can represent elements for the solution, but they are not the wholesome solution we require.

Conclusion. Because of all the things mentioned above, we have the urgent need to be creative and innovative. And the secret to arouse that creativity lies within us. We must find intelligent ways to combine the elements mentioned above and others which I haven't mentioned due to my ignorance about them or lack of space.

In my opinion, the human being's most important skill as a social being is his capacity to put him or herself in somebody else's situation, and when we do this we are able to see different perspectives and many times elements for the solution of the problem in question which we wouldn't have appreciated otherwise. I invite all of you to do this exercise from the point of view of the researcher and the teacher, of the representative from each country and of the network's directing board, and of the authorities from the institutions in your countries, who have made a bet on the development of the Latin American cooperation of advanced networks. And I request you share your ideas with all of us.

Personally and on behalf of RedCLARA's Directing Council, I wish you all a proper relax at the end of the year, joy for the achievements of the year that is about to end, and a year 2012 full of renewed motives for celebration.

November 21st, Brussels:

RedCLARA participates in the European Policy Summit to discuss Latin America's challenges

Brussels hosted the summit "Latin America's New Dynamics", which featured the participation of Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), David Pérez Taveras, President of the Latin American Forum of Telecommunications Regulatory Entities (REGULATEL) and Florencio Utreras, Executive Director of the Latin American Cooperation of Advanced Networks (RedCLARA).

Tania Altamirano e Ixchel Pérez



context of the Spanish elections and the Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly in Brussels, the speakers at the European Policy Summit sought to formulate strategies to strengthen relations between the European Union and Latin America.

The advances in terms of networks and telecommunications, as well as the major challenges faced by Latin America in these fields, were the issues discussed at the summit "Latin America's New Dynamics", which was held on November 21st in the Belgian capital.

The event's main participants included the Executive Director of the Latin American Cooperation of Advanced Networks (RedCLARA), Florencio Utreras, as well as speakers like Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary of ECLAC, David Pérez Taveras, President of the Latin American Forum of Telecommunications Regulatory Entities (REGULATEL), Rudolf Strohmeier, adjunct general director of the European Commission's Research and Innovation Department; Philipp Murmann, member of the German parliament's Technological

Latin America is increasingly more visible in the world scenario and Europe has begun to rethink its relationship with emerging markets. A new cooperation spirit could include industrial innovation, social progress, telecommunications and ICT as tools for development. Within the

Education, Research and Evaluation Committee and Arancha Díaz-Lladó, public relations director for Telefónica Latin America.

The experts, who participated in a round table, concluded that although there are significant advances in terms of network usage, it is precisely those areas of growth that are posing the greatest challenges for state structures.

Latin America's growth has enabled it to gain relevance and become an attractive market for European giants and is regarded as a strategic partner, but there are still some advances pending in terms of inclusion and due to the lack of concrete state policies not all people are becoming part of the information society.

ECLAC's Executive Secretary, Alicia Bárcena, stated that "seventy percent of micro-companies do not have internet access" and added that: "if they had access, it would be a giant leap forward".

The lacks of regional cooperation, together with the high installation costs are to blame. "It is very difficult to take the networks to rural areas or to areas where income is very low", stated Fabio del Alisal, Director of International Affairs of Spain's Telecommunications Commission. "The performance expected is very low for the private sector, particularly in the construction of next generation networks", concluded del Alisal.

The answer probably lies in the liberalisation of telecommunications, the truly independent regulators and public-private associations. Erlinda Handal, Deputy Minister of Science and Technology of El Salvador's Ministry of Education, indicated that private companies have a natural incentive to help build the communications infrastructure. "The construction of networks is expensive, but what could be regarded as expenditure must be regarded as an investment, because consumers will need the services", said Handal.

In relation to the search for growth in access to connectivity, Bárcena pointed out that "the



elimination of the digital divide is a bridge for social cohesion".

The pending tasks in the region were illustrated through the intervention of the Mexican Mónica Aspe, head of the Information and Knowledge Society Coordination of her country's Communications and Transport Secretariat. Aspe indicated that the issue has become "highly controversial", as the government has tried to implement "measures for greater legislation in favour of the competitors". On the other hand, she also pointed out that "the industry does not like to support government projects focusing on providing technological coverage with a social orientation".

Despite the adverse outlook, there is a good situation and positive disposition towards the



transformation of this reality. Christian Leffler, Director of the AcciónExterior's European Service in America, states that the parameters under which cooperation works are no longer responding to reality. "In the past, cooperation has been often equalled to cooperation for development. Many countries in what we call the 'developing world' have made progress, and therefore it does not make sense to continue talking about cooperation for development and we should rather be talking simply about cooperation", Leffler pointed out.



Along the same lines, Rudolf Strohmeier, Adjunct General Director of the European Commission's Research and Innovation General Directorate, indicated that "there are currently a series of bilateral research and innovation initiatives –in terms of biotechnology, energy, climate change and ICT- in which European and Latin American partners stand in equal conditions". The declaration of institutional intent was evidenced in one of the phrases in his intervention: "We are not here to teach. We are facing similar challenges and we must join efforts".



Access the event's website here:
<http://www.friendsofeurope.org/Contentnavigation/Events/Eventsoverview/tabid/1187/EventType/EventView/EventId/1089/EventDateID/1103/PageID/5449/LatinAmericasnewdynamic.aspx>

Photographs: Friends of Europe





ALICE2 and RedCLARA members

RedCLARA strengthens its future vision

Montevideo, Uruguay, was the venue for the second annual meeting of the ALICE2-RedCLARA project, which took place at the Four Points Hotel between November 11 and 17 and was hosted by RAU (Uruguayan Academic Network). It brought together nearly a hundred researchers and representatives from academic networks in Latin America and the Caribbean and Europe to take part in the CLARA-TEC forum, the Workshop for Community Coordinators, the meeting of the region's public relations network – LA NREN PR Network, the Workshop on Good Practices and Innovation, the technical training sessions on eduroam and digital identity, the biannual ALICE2 meeting and the RedCLARA Assembly. The event also gave room for RedCLARA to renew its Directing Council and the presidency of its Technical Commission.

Ixchel Pérez



Training at CLARA-TEC

During a week in November, the world of advanced networks gathered in Montevideo, Uruguay, to attend the second annual meetings of ALICE2 and RedCLARA's executive, technical, communications and training areas. The event established the plans for the following years and the prospects for the strengthening of RedCLARA across the region.

The representatives from the 14 Latin American countries connected to RedCLARA, and from networks in the Caribbean –C@ribNet- and in Europe –RedIRIS and GÉANT-, got together from November 7 to 11 at the Four Points Hotel in order to discuss the advances in terms of advanced networks in the region and future prospects.

The technical area featured the CLARA-TEC meeting (7 and 8 November), the Workshop on enterprise technical updating (8-11), the Workshop on eduroam-LA Deployment (led by José Luis Quiroz Arroyo and Javier Richard Quinto

Ancieta, Coordinator and Deputy Coordinator of RedCLARA's Mobility Work Group) and the Course on Digital Identity Management (led by Edré Quintao Moreira from RNP's Identity Management Technical Committee and Lidia Aparecida de Oliveira Alixandrina, Technical Support from the Café Federation). Both training courses were attended by technical representatives from Latin American networks and from the circle of Uruguayan academia, and were held between 9 and 11 November.

RedCLARA's technical community had the chance to learn about the success stories of GÉANT's services EduGAIN (Géant's authentication and authorisation architecture) and EduPERT (a structure which facilitates the exchange of knowledge through a knowledge base). Additionally, the engineer Gustavo García, RedCLARA's Technical Manager, introduced the changes made in RedCLARA's infrastructure and Carlos González, RedCLARA's Applications Manager made a presentation on the new Services, which include the Integrated Videoconference Service, SIVIC.

It is important to point out that the event gave room for the renewal of RedCLARA's Technical Commission, an advisory body of the Directing Board in charge of making technical plans for the network (including, among other activities, topology, equipment and operational features), defining technical parameters for the allocation of connection capacities of the backbone and access to the network; supervising the network's quality of service and the quality of its management centre; proposing the network's technical project to the Members Assembly, and performing all the roles requested by the Directive Council. The Commission's Presidency went to Iara Machado, RNP's Adjunct Director of Advanced Internet.

RedCLARA's executive team focused on a Management Workshop which was aimed at

directors of RedCLARA's member networks, as part of an IADB project called "Strengthening of Regional Advanced Academic Networks through RedCLARA as a Regional Public Asset", in order to elucidate the key relevant elements for the promotion and sustainability of advanced networks in their countries.

Communicators from the NRENs (National Research and Education Networks) from countries in Latin America, the Caribbean (Colleen Wint-Smith), Spain (Cristina Lorenzo Fernández) and the representative from DANTE (institution which manages the pan-European network GÉANT) in the ALICE2 project, Tom Fryer, introduced the results obtained this year in terms of visibility and promotion, and shared experiences and good practices as an example of the collaborative work philosophy promoted by RedCLARA.

Representatives from the region's main research communities, which are supported by COMCLARA, also got together in Montevideo. They not only learnt firsthand about the services available for them through RedCLARA's portal but also were trained in project management.

During the RedCLARA Assembly its Directing Council was renewed. This is the highest body in charge of the institution's direction and will rule between 2012 and 2014. Ida Holz, Executive Director of the Uruguayan Academic Network (RAU), was elected as president. Holz is one of the most renowned and prize-winning women in the world of technology. She trained as a computer engineer in the 1970s and was the pioneer of the internet's introduction in her country and she is regarded as the mother of Advanced Internet in Latin America.

Álvaro de la Ossa, Executive Director of Costa Rica's National Research and Education Network, RedCONARE, was elected as Vice-President. Carlos Casasús López Hermosa, Director of the University Corporation for Internet Development (CUDI) in Mexico, José Palacios, President of

the Directing Board of Chile's National University Network (REUNA) and Nelson Simoes, Executive Director of the Brazilian National Research and Education Network (RNP) were appointed as treasurer, secretary and advisor, respectively.



LA NRENs PR Network group

Learn about the full agenda of activities developed between November 7 and 11 in Montevideo and download the presentations at:

<http://www.redclara.net/indico/evento/39>

Over RedCLARA:

Project for the integration of Latin America's VoIP networks moves forward

Put forward by the Work Group on Point of Exchange of Voice Traffic over IP, PIT VOIP, this initiative aims to facilitate and strengthen communication between researchers and academics across the region through the integration of the telephony networks available in the national networks (NREN) interconnected by RedCLARA.

Tania Altamirano L.

Low-cost, fast calls from anywhere in Latin America are some of the benefits of the project call Point of Exchange of Voice Traffic over IP, PIT VOIP Deployment, aimed at researchers and academics across the region.

The initiative is coordinated by RedCLARA's PIT VoIP Work Group, led by Brazil's national network, RNP, and includes the participation of members from Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela.

The aim of the project consists in modelling and implementing a point of exchange of VoIP traffic (Voice over Internet Protocol) through the interconnection of the telephone networks of RedCLARA's member NRENs.

The tasks proposed by the group for its implementation include a survey of the VoIP actions in RedCLARA's member NRENs, the

establishment of a policy for service use and regulations for participation in the PIT, developing and adapting the PIT VoIP system, conducting training sessions for the system's operators and carrying out dissemination activities. Additionally, the plan is to set up the Pilot Service of VoIP traffic exchange and an analysis of the results.

To date three virtual meetings have been conducted through RedCLARA's desktop videoconference service, VC Espresso. The first meeting, led by the group's coordinator, Alex Galhano (RNP), was held on August 12th, and included the project's official introduction and implementation by its coordinator. The second meeting, held on Friday September 9th, included the definition of tasks and actions in the short term. During the third meeting, organised on October 21st, the draft of the policies for system use was presented and is open to considerations by the project's members.

For more information, visit the Work Group's Wiki:

http://comunidades.redclara.net/wiki/grupodetrabajovoip/index.php/Grupo_de_Trabajo_VoIP:Portal_de_la_comunidad

Prof. Norbert Lossau, President of COAR:

“The success of RedCLARAs OAR initiative would also be a success for the international OA repository movement”

Launched in October 2009, COAR, the Confederation of Open Access Repositories, is uniting 59 institutions in 23 countries from Europe, Latin America, Asia, and North America. Its mission is to enhance greater visibility and application of research outputs through global networks of Open Access digital repositories. That goal of improving global visibility of research outputs through networks of Open Access Repositories (OAR) is strongly shared by RedCLARA, that is not only a member of COAR, but is also fostering the creation of OAR in Latin America by managing the IADB funded project “Regional Strategy and Interoperability and Management Framework for a Latin American Federated Network of Institutional Scientific Documentation Repositories”, supporting the strong CoLaBoRa community and participating in new initiatives with COAR. In order to better know COAR and really understand the importance of the OAR, we talked to Prof. Norbert Lossau, President of COAR and Director of the Goettingen State and University Library, Germany.

María José López Pourailly

COAR promotes infrastructure interoperability and a joint global data store of Open Access repositories to enable and support the re-use of data by service and portal providers. Currently, COAR has three working groups, each with its own set of responsibilities, objectives, and related activities. COAR aims to enhance the visibility of research outputs, pave the road to interoperability, foster knowledge exchange on repository issues, and strengthen international open access implementation.

Probably the better way to describe what COAR is trying to do is by saying that they are putting all their effort in order to ensure the successful sharing of research worldwide in the best possible form, harvesting regional and national efforts all

over the world. And when it comes to a region, COAR's President has a nice view of what is going on with Latin America: “I think the collaboration with Latin America is one of the most promising developments to facilitate the building of global research infrastructures, based on Open Access and digital repositories”. That opinion was shared with us the day we asked him for the interview that we invite you to start reading now:

In the context of the Information Society almost every day a new concept or way of producing content (sometimes knowledge) is born. It is difficult to manage the information avalanche and, of course, the result is disinformation. In this particular scenario and from your position, how would you explain what the Open Access

Repositories are and what they are for, to people who are not experts in this matter?

Before the Internet was created, we had libraries, museums and archives to collect, structure, make accessible (through catalogues) and preserve information and knowledge resources. In the library world we had also international library loan to provide books and other library materials from one place to the other. Outside this cosmos of traditional infrastructure providers we had numerous further sources of information (sociological surveys, data captured from instruments or in laboratories, audio, film etc.), often hosted by research institutions themselves. The World Wide Web and digitisation of all types of information and knowledge resources have provided the platform and the potential to link and network all this information, removing barriers between content providers and databases. Open Access repositories are the libraries of the online world, securing open and long-term access for any type of information source.

Which would be for you the best possible way to share research worldwide?

A global system of Open Access repositories, serving the same protocols and being compliant with data and technical standards, which allow service providers to build discovery, filtering, profiling, data-mining, visualisation and multiple other services on top of these data. From the end-user perspective those services would offer seamless access to a global virtual knowledge base which can be (re)-used and enhanced following good scientific practice (e.g. by giving credit to the content producers).

Why is interoperability so important?

Without interoperable technologies, protocols and interfaces we could not use the data network worldwide. Your e-mail would be refused when you send it to a colleague in another country and communication would become very patchy. Try to access all research articles in a discipline or

all digitised collections from the Latin-American region in one pass. You would fail in the current environment. COAR wants to make access and (re)use of information sources as easy as plugging into the data network, independently of their physical location. In our recently published paper "The case for Interoperability for Open Access Repositories" we have described why interoperability is so important and how we can achieve it, whether on system, data, semantics or policy level (see: http://www.coar-repositories.org/files/COAR_Interoperability_Briefing.pdf, Editors: Eloy Rodrigues, University of Minho, Portugal and Chair of the COAR Working Group on "Repository Interoperability" and Abby Clobridge, Clobridge Consulting, United States).

COAR is a very young Association. Could you please tell us how it was born and which are the fundamental needs that the people behind its creation wanted to tackle by forming the Association?

The idea to create COAR was born during the course of the European DRIVER project (Digital Repository Infrastructure Vision for Europe). DRIVER had been very successful in building a European repository Community of Practice and a virtual repository network. The DRIVER guidelines had been translated into Spanish, Portuguese, Czech and Japanese. Some DRIVER consortium partners felt that the Open Access repository community would lose seriously momentum if the project funding was to run out. This concern was shared by more and more institutions also outside of Europe (i.e. in Japan, China, Latin-America, Canada, U.S.) and led to the founding of COAR, an organisationally very lightweight, legal not-for-profit-Association according to German law. The initial objectives, which are still valid, have been to lobby for repositories, their networks and repository based e-Infrastructures at the national and international level, the development and support of interoperable standards for national aggregation of research content in open access



(OA) repositories, support and coordination of global collaborative efforts towards high-quality OA data and interoperable systems, to have a reference point for repository standardization efforts, the repository community platform, and a venue for discussion and meetings working towards streamlining OA repository developments, the promotion of an increased rate of self-archived deposit with as little burden as possible on the researcher and to advocate for consistent policy formulation on institutional repository development.

What are the synergies that you would personally like to see functioning between COAR and RedCLARA's OAR initiatives?

The data network, maintained by RedCLARA, is, like the European GÉANT data network, only useful when they are connected and bits and bytes can be sent without barriers. The mission of creating a global, interoperable network of Open Access Repositories, where services can be built on top of them (see under 2.), can only be achieved together. Expertise can be exchanged among practitioners on very, concrete topics like "How do I have to implement my repository in order to be internationally compliant", "What are successful ways to approach researchers, funders, ministries", "Are there ways to modify licensing agreements with publishers", "How will we link publications to research data". The success of RedCLARA's OAR initiative would also be a success for the international OA repository movement.

In your own words, why does Latin America need an OAR?

Latin-American countries collaborate in many areas, including economy, culture higher-education and of course RedCLARA to provide a seamless data network. And you share the same language, Spanish with a close relation to Portuguese in Brasil ("Portunol"). Apart from the rather homogenous language in the Latin-American region there are quite some



similarities to the European region. It creates many opportunities for synergies if countries in a region work together: you can jointly apply for funding, share work e.g. in developing training materials, exchange best practices, build critical mass of research content (in particular compared to other regions), get more influence in addressing other stakeholders (such as publishers). And there is another, very research-oriented reason to create cross-country networks: because many of our researchers already work in communities beyond borders. And their expectation is to work with an infrastructure that is equally regional, resp. international.

Why is it important to foster collaboration and synergies between COAR and a Latin American OAR?

See above my dedicated vote for an international OA repository infrastructure. How would this work without Latin-America? And at the same time, how would the Latin-American community and network work without the rest of the world? Global communities need a joint organisational backbone, supporting systematic collaboration across all regions. This is the role where I see COARs (International) responsibility. But the international organisation needs to build and rely on actors in countries and regions which are rooted in their own culture, research and infrastructure system, political and legal jurisdiction, economical environments. And they need of course to translate into their own languages.

Finally, when at the end of the day you realize that all what you are doing in COAR (as what we do in RedCLARA) is to work and collaborate in order to generate new knowledge and to share that knowledge, what is the specific weight that you assign to the marriage between the words “knowledge” and “sharing”?

Knowledge and sharing are inseparably connected. “If I have seen further it is by standing on the shoulders of giants” is a citation from Isaac Newton (1676), which has been used as motto for the Open Access pilot of the European Commission (2008). Open sharing of knowledge can be competitive compared to closed knowledge production cycles, as the Economist Heidi Williams from MIT has proved in her article “Intellectual property rights and innovation: Evidence from the human genome” (2010). And with respect to the benefit of our Society, the Vice-President of the European Commission, Neelie Kroes, Commissioner for the Digital Agenda in Europe points out: ““Scientific information has the power to transform our lives for the better – it is too valuable to be locked away. In addition, every EU citizen has the right to access and benefit from knowledge produced using public funds.” (Ghent, OpenAIRE Launch event, 2 Dec. 2010).

More information:

- COAR: <http://www.coar-repositories.org/>
- IADB Project “Regional Strategy and Interoperability and Management Framework for a Latin American Federated Network of Institutional Scientific Documentation Repositories”: http://www.redclara.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=533&Itemid=504&lang=en
- CoLaBoRa Community: http://www.redclara.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=847&Itemid=691&lang=es

On 17-18 October, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, hosted the

Europe – Latin America Conference on e-Infrastructures

Organized by the EVALSO project (Enabling Virtual Access to Latin American Southern Observatories), with the support of the Brazilian academic network, RNP, the conference aimed at encouraging the exchange of common experiences and establishing the needs for the future development of the e-Infrastructures which today link (and will link) Latin America and Europe, with a view to the 8th Framework Programme, which will be soon launched by the European Commission (EC), and in line with the research programmes that are currently being discussed between the EC and Latin American countries..

María José López Pourailly

The conference was held at the Brazilian Centre for Physics Research (CBPF in Portuguese) and brought together key actors from the projects which are co-funded by the European Commission, Brazilian government representatives, funding and e-Infrastructure agencies from the EC, directors of some of the region's national academic networks and researchers from Latin America and Europe working in different scientific areas.

The first day of Europe – Latin America e-Infrastructures focused on cooperation activities and to this end those e-Infrastructure initiatives which are co-funded by the EC in Latin America were presented; the second day was devoted directly to the use of these e-Infrastructures made by researchers.

An issue of major importance was the implementation of a submarine cable to join Europe and Latin America (the subject of the ELLA project, a feasibility study funded by the Capacities e-Infrastructures strand of the 7th Framework

Programme, in which GARR, RedCLARA, RNP, FCCN, RedIRIS and InnovaRed are participating), which is regarded as crucial for the development of research.

Due to the boost given to interaction between the different actors present at the activity and the evident need arising from the world of academia and research, both in Europe and Latin America, at the event's closure the conclusions drawn up at the panel discussion emphasised how fundamental it is to keep a high level of cooperation between both regions, strengthening the development of e-Infrastructures which rely on the existence and strengthening of advanced academic networks and the backbones which interconnect them, as well as on the generation of policies which facilitate and safeguard their development. At the activity's closure although it was acknowledged that there are important synergies between Europe and Latin America in areas like biodiversity, health and climate, it was pointed out that it is urgent to increase

the participation of Latin American institutions and researchers in collaboration projects and to consolidate the implementation and use of eduGAIN and eudoram within the region.



Federico Ruggeri, CHAIN project coordinator

“RedCLARA is the organisation of reference for eInfrastructures in LA”

Financed by the 7th Framework Programme (FP7) – Capacities, of the European Commission the CHAIN Project (Coordination & Harmonisation of Advanced e-Infrastructures), in which RedCLARA is strongly involved, it aims to coordinate and leverage recent efforts and results with a vision of a harmonised and optimised interaction model for e-Infrastructure and specifically Grid interfaces between Europe and the rest of the world. The project - which was launched on December 14, 2010, and will run till the end of 2012 - will elaborate a strategy and define the instruments in order to ensure coordination and interoperation of the European Grid Infrastructures with other external e-Infrastructures. In order to know more about CHAIN and to evaluate its first year of action, we talked with Federico Ruggeri, its project Coordinator.

María José López Pourailly

CHAIN is completing the first half of its lifetime. After a year of work in order to foster and ensure the interoperability of the European Grid Infrastructures with the e-Infrastructures of the rest of the world, and considering what has been done with the project partners from Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia and Latin America, what would you identify as the most relevant project assets and which would identify as its most relevant contributions to e-Science development?

The CHAIN project, started on the 1st of December 2010, aims to coordinate and leverage the efforts made over the past 6 years to extend the European eInfrastructure (and particularly Grid) operational and organisational principles to a number of regions in the world. CHAIN uses these results with a vision of a harmonised and optimised interaction model for eInfrastructure



and specifically Grid interfaces between Europe and the rest of the world with a wide geographical coverage from Latin America to Asia Pacific.

The project has started with a large spectrum survey on National and Regional Grid Infrastructures to complement and update the knowledge base originated by previous regional projects such as EELA, EUMEDGRID, EU-IndiaGrid, EUAsiaGrid and SEE-GRID. This knowledge base is accessible from the project web site www.chain-project.eu with an interactive interface base on geographical maps: <http://www.chain-project.eu/knowledge-base>.

CHAIN has also developed a strategy of events (workshops, schools and conferences) to ensure coordination and interoperation of the European Grid Infrastructure with those emerging in other regions of the world (Africa, Asia, Latin America, Mediterranean and Middle East).

The contact with Virtual Research Communities (VRC) has also been one of the most important activities performed. We signed Memoranda with WeNMR and WFR4G and are working on building an intercontinental VRC on Climate Change. The high level conference organised at ICTP in Trieste last May has been very important to gather Climate Change researchers and eInfrastructures providers and managers in order to understand the requirements of such a large community.

Six Virtual Research Communities (VCR) were identified by CHAIN in early April as possible main actors for the major task of proposing a reference model for VCR. Are they participating in the elaboration of that reference model? Is that model currently under production? Which do you envision its key directions will be?

We are currently working with them in order to clarify their requirements and we have prepared a model that is based on a short term solution based on Scientific Gateways and a long term vision for interoperability. The short

term is currently under development and will be demonstrated early next year. The goal is to demonstrate that e-Infrastructures can be made interoperable to each other using standards and that VRC-specific applications can be submitted from anywhere and run everywhere.

In order to reach this objective we need to ease the access of users to the eInfrastructures and we are convinced that Identity Federations can provide a boost in this respect.

How do you evaluate this first year of CHAIN and how do you envision the second year?

The first year of activity has been very exciting and we spent a lot of effort in collecting information and organising meetings and workshops in order to pass the message that a large intercontinental coordination is possible and it is beneficial for several scientific communities.

The second year will be devoted to consolidating the results obtained, continue to involve the interested scientific communities and finally harvesting results from what we have done. We are currently planning to organise several workshops and to demonstrate the opportunities offered by distributed computing infrastructures to the selected scientific communities.

A road-map on the interoperations between European and other regional Grid Infrastructures will be another of the most important deliverables of CHAIN.

All the CHAIN targeted regions are currently operating grid infrastructures, which are the main differences between those regions in terms of the management and use of those grids?

As it came out from our survey the main differences are related to the organisational structure and, in a few cases, on the different middleware that is being used. The former, being a "natural" consequence of different opportunities offered by the governmental

structures and different aggregations of scientific communities, is sometimes related to the latter: India and China show a very strong governmental support and a specific middleware.

In other regions the message on the importance of eInfrastructures has been rapidly endorsed by the scientific communities, and European best practices were applied. On the other hand the activity has in general received lower attention (and funds) from the governments.

Sustainability of the e-Infrastructures in those non European regions that are supported by the European Commission through its different cooperation programmes is a major issue. Which are the main concerns of the CHAIN leaders in terms of the future sustainability of these infrastructures?

Sustainability has many faces and all of them should contribute to the final result:

- eInfrastructures should address a large number of users;
- public funds should be available to support the common infrastructures.

We have made progress in both of the above points but still we see a long road ahead. The number of users should be increased in order to have a sufficient bottom-up pressure on the stakeholders. At the same time some infrastructural investments are needed in many countries in order to facilitate the process and reduce the costs of deployment of leading edge eInfrastructures.

Which has been the major contribution of RedCLARA and Latin America to the project?

RedCLARA has been key in collecting information on the state of the art in Latin America with an original approach to the topics of organisational structures and sustainability. The LA scenario is a very relevant example of regional specificities that have to be taken into account and a very active source of possible approaches that could be applied elsewhere.

RedCLARA is the organisation of reference for eInfrastructures in LA, but it can also be a model in other regional contexts.

Florencio Utreras is regarded as one of the fathers of internet in Chile

RedCLARA's Executive Director receives LACNIC Achievement Award 2011

This award acknowledges his contribution to the permanent development of the internet and of the Information Society in the Latin American and Caribbean region.

Tania Altamirano L.

On October 6th, the Latin American and Caribbean Internet Address Registry, LACNIC, announced to the world of internet networks in Latin America and the Caribbean that as a result of the analysis of the applications received, the third edition of the Achievement Award (2011) was given upon unanimous decision by the jury to Florencio Utreras, RedCLARA's Executive Director. The ceremony, held in Buenos Aires (Argentina) was broadcast via internet to the community of internet users and featured the participation of Ida Holz, President of RedCLARA's Directing Council and LACNIC Achievement Award 2009.

LACNIC's initiative recognizes and highlights those people who have made relevant contributions to the development of the internet and the information society in the Latin American and Caribbean region. In this edition, the panel of judges was constituted by Carlos Afonso (Brazil, Achievement Award 2010), Ida Holz (Uruguay), José Soriano (Peru) and Raimundo Beca (Chile). The award consisted in a representative sculpture and USD 5.000.

Subsequently, on December 15, in Santiago de Chile, Florencio Utreras' country of origin and residence, LACNIC, with the support of the Chilean national network, REUNA, organised a pleasant and intimate reception which featured the participation of friends, colleagues and people linked to science and the academia, who have shared and accompanied

his work since the beginning of the internet in Chile, at the dawn of the 1990s.

The achievements

Florencio Ignacio Utreras Díaz is a Mathematical Engineer from the Universidad de Chile (1975) and obtained the degree of PhD in Engineering at the University of Grenoble, France, in 1979. He was professor of applied mathematics at the Universidad de Chile in Santiago and visiting professor in some universities in Europe (Joseph Fourier University, France; University of Florence, Italy) and the USA (Miami, UCLA).

He has been involved in research networks since 1987 and has received several awards for his contribution to the dissemination of internet technologies and research networks. He played a key role in Chile's connection to worldwide computer networks when in 1987 he led the work of incorporation to Bitnet and in 1992 he coordinated the FONDEF Project for the strengthening of the National University Network, which enabled the creation of a 64 Kbps backbone for REUNA's members. In 1997 he put forward a strategic alliance between REUNA and CTC Mundo (currently Telefónica), which enabled the creation of REUNA2, a broadband network from Arica to Osorno, regarded in its time as Latin America's longest one.



De izquierda a derecha Óscar Mezzano, Presidente LACNIC, Florencio Utreras, Director Ejecutivo RedCLARA y premio LACNIC a la trayectoria 2012, y Raúl Echeberría, Director Ejecutivo de LACNIC. Imagen: Cortesía de LACNIC.

In 1992 he contributed to the creation of REUNA (the first academic network in Latin America and the Caribbean); he was part of the first directing commission of CLARA and subsequently he competed for the post of Executive Director, which he took over in 2004 and where he is doing a priceless work for the connection of all the academic networks across Latin America and the Caribbean.

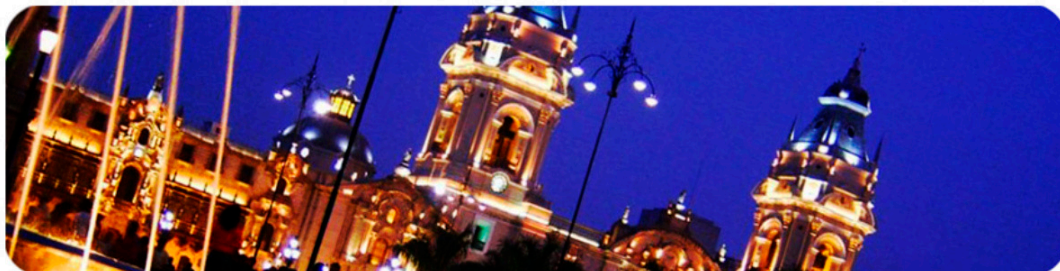
He has stood out in many internet-related organisations and events. He was part of the Programme committee of the INET 96 and INET 97 global meetings, organised by the Internet Society in Montreal, Canada and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, respectively. He was also President of the Organising Committee of the first ICANN meeting in Latin America, held in Santiago de Chile in August 1999, where the regional community's request to create the new Regional Internet Registry, LACNIC, was presented.

Utreras has been involved in the development of the Internet and Advanced Networks in America for more than 20 years. In the 1990s he was one of the pioneers in the region, contributing not only to the development of networks but also to the creation of spaces for regional collaboration like the Latin American Forum on Networks, and in recent years he has been one of the architects of RedCLARA's construction and consolidation.

This is a award for his permanent contribution and his untiring work for the benefit of the community.

For more information on the LACNIC Achievement Award 2011 visit:

<http://lacnic.net/sp/trayectoria/trayectoria2011.html>



RedCLARA's invitation to be part of TICAL 2012

On July 2nd and 3rd, 2012, Lima will host the Second Conference of Information and Communication Technologies Directors from higher education institutions. People involved in ICT management in Latin American universities are invited to submit proposals related to this topic. The deadline to submit the material is April 15th, 2012.

Tania Altamirano L.

With the aim of establishing a new reflexion space for the exchange of knowledge and good practices related to Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) management, in order to contribute to the improvement and optimisation of the management and work of the region's universities, the Network of Information and Communications Technologies Directors from Latin American Universities (TICAL) will organise the second regional conference, TICAL 2012, in Lima, Peru on July 2nd and 3rd, with the support of RedCLARA.

The conference, whose core topic will be ICT management in universities, will include presentations related to ICT management and governance for the development of research, knowledge management, services to support e-Science, cooperative procurement, federated services and the follow-up and updating of TICAL 2011's issues.

All people involved in ICT management in Latin American universities will be allowed to submit

papers, preferably on the topics mentioned above, by sending their proposals to: tical_2012@redclara.net. The deadline to submit material is April 15th, 2012.

Important dates

- April 15th, 2012: papers to be submitted
- May 15th, 2012: notification to authors
- July 2nd and 3rd: TICAL Conference – Lima

Documents

- TICAL 2012 Call for Papers: http://www.redclara.net/news/doc/TICAL_2012_es.pdf
- Authors Handbook: http://www.redclara.net/news/doc/Conferencia_TICAL2012_Guia_Autores.doc

More information at:

http://tical_2012.redclara.net

Strengthening national networks:

RedCLARA delivers distance technical courses

Network monitoring and eduroam academic mobility are the topics of the latest two courses delivered remotely which featured the participation of members of the national networks connected to RedCLARA. The voice over internet protocol technology, VoIP, will be the topic to be addressed in the next training course.

Tania Altamirano L

The second edition of RedCLARA's technical distance courses took place between October 25th and November 15th with the aim of improving the skills for the configuration of a pilot scenario for eduroam at a local and national level, and in order to promote the implementation of the worldwide mobility service in RedCLARA, thus consolidating eduroam -LA in the short term across the region.

Eduoram's academic mobility was the core theme of this initiative aimed at technical staff working and/or collaborating in National Research and Education Networks (NREN) and at members of the institutions (universities, research centres, etc.) that belong to RedCLARA's member NRENs. 30 participants from Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Spain, Guatemala, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela had the opportunity to get connected to the virtual learning environment (VLE), RedCLARA Aprende (RedCLARA learns) in order to participate in the course.

The themes were developed by the coordinator and deputy coordinator of RedCLARA's mobility work group, José Luis Quiroz Arroyo and Javier Richard Quinto Ancieta. Within two weeks and through five modules the course made participants establish their local server, giving them the option of configuring their federated node.

According to Javier Quinto, the course's objectives have been gradually met and one of the concrete results is that currently there are two countries connected to eduroam: Venezuela and

Chile. It is important to consider that even though at the beginning the course's dynamics were new to the students, upon completing their studies they succeeded in mastering the procedures to be followed.

"I must highlight the fact that the steps described in the course's manual were similar to the procedure I followed at a certain time in order to connect Latin America's confederate to the European confederate, and I am sure that those who passed the course won't have any problems to validate their countries' institutions in eduroam, since that was the training course's purpose, to train people well in the management of radius and ldap servers, databases, gpg ciphered keys management, etc. Additionally, the course was supported by a few illustrative videos on how to configure servers; some progress was made by using chat and in other cases by using eduroam's forum", indicated Quinto.

Ten days after the completion of the training course on eduroam, between November 25th and 28th, RedCLARA hosted the third technical course on network monitoring, with the aim of developing capacities to configure and operate applications and tools for the effective management of one or more networks, and the goal of defining management work in Latin America's academic networks. The content was delivered by Alejandra Stolk and Javier Contreras, who introduced the basic concepts, protocols and utilities, the tools

Quiénes Somos Miembros Infraestructura Operaciones Servicios Proyectos Comunidades Internet Avanzada Sala de Prensa Regístrate

CLARA > edu roam Cambiar rol a... Activar edición

Personas Participantes

Actividades Foros Recursos

Buscar en los foros

Búsqueda avanzada

Administración

- Activar edición
- Configuración
- Asignar roles
- Calificaciones
- Grupos
- Copia de seguridad
- Restaurar

Diagrama de temas

Education Roaming
Movilidad segura para la comunidad académica

- Ficha técnica y hoja de ruta del curso
- Novedades
- Hoja de ruta
- Foro social
- Detalles acerca de las evaluaciones

1 **Conceptos básicos**

- Módulo 1 (Duración estimada de 5 horas)
- Lectura 1

Novedades

- Agregar un nuevo tema...
- 27 de Oct, 10:08 José Luis Quiroz Anrojo Bienvenido Jose Manuel! más...
- 25 de Oct, 15:21 José Luis Quiroz Anrojo Hoja de ruta más... Temas antiguos...

Eventos próximos

No hay eventos próximos

Ir al calendario... Nuevo evento...

for network management and made a final analysis.

Mark these dates on your training calendar

The next courses to be organised in RedCLARA are:

4th technical course: VoIP

Elaborated by the PIT-VoIP WG

Registration: April 2012

Course begins: May 2012

Spaces: 3 people per NREN

5th technical course: Security in VoIP

Elaborated by the Security-WG

Registration: May 2012

Course begins: June 2012

Spaces: 3 people per NREN

For further information, contact Claudia Córdova, RedCLARA's Training Manager, via email at claudia.cordova@redclara.net.

Quiénes Somos Miembros Infraestructura Operaciones Servicios Proyectos Comunidades Internet Avanzada Sala de Prensa Regístrate

CLARA > Gestión Cambiar rol a... Activar edición

Personas Participantes

Actividades Chats Foros Glosarios Recursos

Buscar en los foros

Búsqueda avanzada

Administración

- Activar edición
- Configuración
- Asignar roles
- Calificaciones
- Grupos
- Copia de seguridad
- Restaurar

Diagrama de temas

GESTIÓN DE REDES

- Espacio para compartir (novedades e ideas)
- Sala de tertulia (mensajería instantánea)
- Vamos a presentarnos
- Ficha Técnica

1 **Conceptos Básicos**

- Foro1: Comentarios y dudas
- Conceptos básicos

Novedades

- Agregar un nuevo tema... (Sin novedades aún)

Eventos próximos

No hay eventos próximos

Ir al calendario... Nuevo evento...

Actividad reciente

Actividad desde Wednesday, 30 de November de 2011, 13:41 Informe completo de la actividad reciente...

Actualizaciones de cursos:

- Se ha borrado Recurso
- Agregado Recurso: Actividad 1

Nuevos mensajes:

- 30 de Nov, 14:17 Karla Quesada **Publicación de los**

Increasing collaboration between Europe and Latin America – through dance

DANTE

Today's research projects often cross continents, bringing together groups from around the world to achieve a common goal. International research networks such as RedCLARA and GÉANT, the pan-European research network work together closely to provide the technology and services to underpin this collaboration.

One growing area where RedCLARA and GÉANT are working together is end-to-end performance monitoring. With intercontinental collaboration relying on performance across multiple networks, stretching from the campus LAN through national and international research networks, multi-domain monitoring to pinpoint and consequently solve potential problems in a standardised format is an increasing need.

A recent international dance performance demonstrated the power of performance monitoring in action. The GÉANT-developed perfSONAR Multi-Domain Monitoring (MDM) service was used to test the Brasilia-Barcelona network route ahead of a major dance performance at the TERENA Network Performing Arts Production Workshop.

The simultaneous performance featured dancers in Brasilia and Barcelona performing together in choreographed unison. Video cameras in each venue captured the dancers, with the images and sound then transmitted across high speed academic networks and back projected in real time at the other location. This meant that dancers thousands of miles away could interact on a virtual stage, as if they were all in the same place.

The networks involved, RedCLARA, RNP, RedIRIS, CESCA, and GÉANT, used perfSONAR

MDM before and during the performance. Through monitoring points on the route between Brasilia and Barcelona engineers from all the networks could log on and access network measurement data from multiple domains in a standardised format. This meant they could work together, identifying potential issues on the intercontinental route that would affect network performance and take action to solve these before the event, confident that they were seeing the same information in a consistent format.

Overall the performance served as a very successful test for perfSONAR MDM monitoring between Latin America and Europe, with the close collaboration being used to further improve the software going forward. The intention now is to test perfSONAR MDM using measuring points on RedCLARA NRENs' networks and the RedCLARA backbone itself. Work with the GISELA (Grid Initiatives for e-Science virtual communities in Europe and Latin America) project will further increase the number of monitoring points for the testing of perfSONAR MDM in Latin America. Enabling a permanent monitoring system across the RedCLARA backbone would create an interoperable, intercontinental monitoring infrastructure that projects can use quickly and easily. Through perfSONAR MDM's interoperability with Internet2's perfSONAR pS tool, monitoring can be extended to projects involving North American partners as well.

Transatlantic co-operation has also been boosted by a technical and strategic collaboration between GÉANT, ESnet, Internet2 and other partners to help underpin data-intensive projects

such as Large Hadron Collider. Announced at the SC11 show in November, this will create a suite of interoperable transatlantic services. This will allow those involved in data-intensive projects such as high energy physics, radio astronomy and fusion research to be able to access interoperable, dynamically provisioned on-demand network links and multi-domain monitoring on both sides of the Atlantic for the first time. This seamless approach makes it simpler to collaborate on large-scale projects, speeding up research and adding flexibility to high performance computing.

Moving into 2012, ever closer collaboration between international research communities will be matched by collaboration between networks to deliver the interoperable, multi-domain services they need to ensure project success.

UNESCO's new Open Access Portal highlights RedCLARA's work

The information published in GOAP (Global Open Access Portal) regarding RedCLARA is part of the content devoted to Latin America and the Caribbean prepared by the institutional repository of the Latin American Council of Social Sciences (CLACSO), and includes a brief profile of the Latin American advanced network and links to the countries connected, to social networks and two presentations about its structure, purpose, topology and available services.

CLACSO's institutional repository was chosen by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, UNESCO, to prepare the initial contents about Latin America and the Caribbean for UNESCO's new Open Access Portal, UNESCO-GOAP (Global Open Access Portal).

At the moment the site features a regional summary on open access in Latin America and the Caribbean, a review on open access in the sub region and in each of the 20 countries involved and data from 39 institutions and projects chosen by CLACSO for their involvement in open access in the region. All the material is accompanied by a bibliography of 300 references on open access in Latin America and the Caribbean, with links to the full texts, 31 videos and 68 PowerPoint presentations about these initiatives.

The information on RedCLARA selected by CLACSO includes a profile that makes reference to the Latin American Community of Digital Libraries and Repositories, CoLaBoRa, and the Latin American Federated Network of Institutional Scientific Documentation Repositories, as initiatives which are representative of open access in the region. It also contains links to the countries connected and to RedCLARA's accounts available in social networks (Facebook and Twitter).

The screenshot shows the UNESCO GOAP website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with categories like UNESCO, Education, Natural Sciences, Social and Human Sciences, Culture, Communication and Information, and Media Services. Below this is a search bar and a main header for the 'Global Open Access Portal'. The main content area features a sidebar on the left with 'GOAP' and 'Key Organizations' sections. The central part of the page is dedicated to 'RedCLARA', with a logo and a detailed text block describing the organization's mission and projects. On the right side, there is a 'Networks Members of RedCLARA' list including countries like Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Chile, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela. There are also social media links for Twitter and Facebook, and a section for 'PPT presentations'.

For further information, visit the portal:

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/portals-and-platforms/goap/key-organizations/latin-america-and-the-caribbean/clara/>

RAICES will connect one more university

The Gerardo Barrios University, located in the west of El Salvador, has been accepted as a member of the Salvadorian Advanced Network for Research Science and Education (RAICES), and it is expected to be connected to advanced internet as of January 2012.

Ixchel Pérez

The advantages of advanced networks are increasingly well-known in the field of Salvadorian education and research, thanks to the hard promotion work that RAICES has done in the different higher education institutions throughout 2011. As a result of this effort and of the visibility of the benefits obtained by RAICES' member entities, the Gerardo Barrios University (UGB), the largest in the west of the country, made the decision of getting connected to advanced networks and become part of the Salvadorian NREN.

"This is good news for many reasons: it means our efforts to disseminate what we do and the action itself of doing research and supporting science in El Salvador have had effects on other universities in the country", indicated Rafael Ibarra, president of RAICES, who added that with the UGB's incorporation to the network the image of RAICES is strengthened, since there are other local higher education institutions which recognise it and aim to become members. "The impact on the organisation's financial support and sustainability is quite significant as well", he added.

Currently RAICES has seven member entities, all of which are higher education institutions. The UGB, which is now the eighth member, was accepted by RAICES' Directing Council in its session held on December 2nd.

"We have made contact with the common provider of the last mile and we expect to get this university connected in January, at least in the San Miguel campus. They have a campus in Usulután as well, but we don't know if that campus will be connected as well", explained Ibarra.

With its connection to RAICES, the UGB will have many opportunities to work together with other higher education institutions, both local and international, since the doors to RedCLARA are open to it.

"This way, they will be able to introduce their topics, find and share experiences with other peers in the topics they are interested in and to participate in new areas. They can participate in Salvadorian and international research communities and groups, and achieve projects and funding", explained the network's President.

Throughout 2011, RAICES has conducted different promotion activities, such as conversations with researchers from member universities and visits to the authorities from entities which are not connected yet, so they can learn about the benefits of advanced internet. "There are other possibilities in institutions that have shown interest in joining these efforts. We think the UGB's incorporation can help and support other to make a similar decision", concluded Ibarra.

In Durango, Mexico

CUDI celebrated Autumn Meeting 2011

With the participation of academics, researchers, technicians and authorities from the institutions that are part of the Mexican scientific-academic community, the twenty-fourth biannual CUDI meeting continued to consolidate the spirit of collaboration between the 260 institutions that make up its community.

María José López Pourailly

The CUDI Autumn Meeting 2011 was held between 16 and 18 November at the Gobernador Hotel in the city of Durango (México), with the support of the Juárez Autonomous University of Durango (UJED) and featured the attendance of 298 people coming from 63 educational and research institutions and companies interested in putting forward projects which make use of the Mexican National Research and Education Network, CUDI.

The first day featured the meeting between the networks committee and the UJED's technical community, which featured the introduction of the theory about an advanced network and discussions on topics discussed like the NOC (Network Operations Centre), and VNOC (Videoconference NOC), computing security, IPv6, grids and cloud computing, and the evolution of internet architectures. In parallel to this meeting, CUDI's academic community learnt about the advances of the 15 communities from the Applications Committee.

On the second day of the event, seven application workshops were developed on topics like medical image interpretation, educational repositories, development of supercomputing centres, mathematical education (MAPI), the Mexican Network of Institutional Repositories (REMEDI), telehealth and a demonstration of the Hubble



CUDI
2011

REUNIÓN DE OTOÑO
DURANGO, DGO.
16 AL 18 DE NOVIEMBRE

Más info
<http://www.cudi.mx>

sequence with astronomical data. Simultaneously, nine panel discussions on network issues like high-speed wireless solutions, better practices for the development of optical fibre projects, technologies for audiovisual communications, training needs in emerging technologies, networks for content dissemination, connectivity solutions, new technologies, in-campus collaboration and security architectures.

On behalf of the Engineer León Felipe Rodríguez, President of CUDI's Directing Council, Carlos Casasús, Executive Director, introduced the important advances achieved in the Mexican academic network during the second half of 2011, highlighting the fact that there are already 260 higher education and research institutions which constitute CUDI's membership. Casasús talked about the progress made in the development of applications and about the procedure to support universities to get connected to the NIBA Network.

The advances of the National Broadband Network (RedNIBA), the development of the e-Jalisco state Network and the creation of Mexico's Open and Distance University were some of the issues which attracted the attention of the large audience brought together by CUDI.

In terms of policies, Senator Carlos Sotelo García announced the National Congress' commitment to consolidate through the country's constitution the support required by the Mexican society in order to have ensured access to digital broadband. Sotelo highlighted the right that citizens have to freedom of expression on the internet and the efforts being made by the Senate to reduce the digital divide. He called for an efficient use of the optical fibre network installed by the Federal Commission on Electricity (CFE), allocating part of this infrastructure for CUDI to coordinate it, based on its experience.

The CUDI Spring Meeting 2012 will be held in the Port of Ensenada, B.C. from 16 to 18 May 2012, with the support of the CICESE.

Agenda 2012

JANUARY

1 - 15 | 3rd International Conference on Supercomputing in México, ISUM 2012

Guanajuato, Mexico
<http://datos.langebio.cinvestav.mx/~isum/index.php>

8-15 | 25th ISODARCO Winter Course on "Security in Cyberspace: Targeting Nations, Infrastructures, Individuals"

Trento, Italy
<http://www.isodarco.it/courses/andalo12/andalo12.html>

22- 26 | Winter 2012 ESCC/Internet2 Joint Techs

Louisiana, USA
<http://events.internet2.edu/2012/jt-loni/>

30 – 01 | FIRST/TF-CSIRT Technical Colloquium

Rome, Italy
<http://www.terena.org/activities/tf-csirt/meeting35/>

FEBRUARY

13 - 17 | 33rd APAN Meeting

Chiang Mai, Thailand
<http://www.apan.net/meetings/ChiangMai2012/>

21 - 2 | APRICOT 2012

New Delhi, India
<http://www.apricot2012.net/>

25 - 26 | GLIF Winter Meeting

Louisiana, USA
<http://www.glif.is/meetings/2012/winter/>

26 - 02 | Symposium International on Grids and Clouds, ISGC 2012

Taipei, Taiwan
<http://event.twgrid.org/isgc2012/index.html>

MARCH

6 | TERENA Technical Committee

Amsterdam, the Netherlands
https://www.terena.org/events/details.php?event_id=2184

25 – 30 | 83rd IETF Meeting

Paris, France
<http://www.ietf.org/meeting/upcoming.html>

26 – 30 | EGI Community Forum 2012

Munich, Germany
<http://cf2012.egi.eu/>





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The Editor wishes to make it clear that the statements made or opinions expressed in this publication are the sole responsibility of the contributors and cannot be taken to reflect the views of CLARA