

Dear colleagues

On behalf of the OSG Executive Team we thank you for agreeing to participate in the review of the Open Science Grid project. This evaluation is scheduled to take place at Fermilab on March 14, 2014.

OSG is a community of scientists, researchers, and experts in high throughput computing. The OSG project provides common services and support for resource providers and scientific institutions using a distributed fabric of high throughput computational services. The OSG does not own resources but provides software and services to users and resource providers alike to enable effective distributed high throughput computing and the opportunistic usage and sharing of resources.

OSG is jointly funded by DOE and NSF and is now two years into its second project period. The funding agencies will ask for and evaluate the OSG plans for year-three and beyond, and this review is a step in preparing for that plan.

Therefore, we ask that you help the OSG Executive Team to assess the success of previous work, to evaluate plans and to give advice and guidance about priorities and strategies for the 2nd half of the project period, and on how to sustain OSG into the future.

In particular we are interested in

- are we meeting the needs and expectations of our stakeholders
- what is the quality and cost effectiveness of the services
  - how can we maintain or improve quality and efficiency
- what are the areas in which OSG provides most value
  - give advice how we should further develop these
  - give advice about extending the user base and reach
- advice towards extending the provisioning of opportunistic computing cycles
  - for individual scientists and research groups
  - for scientific applications
  - for connecting campus computing to OSG
- what new approaches and strategies should OSG develop, how should we prioritize
  - are there areas in which we should get more involved, like e.g. data/storage
  - should we prioritize areas above others or refocus our efforts
- ideas how to promote the adoption of high throughput computing in science

We will meet on Friday March 14th starting at 8:00 CT and hear reports from the OSG project. Around noon we will start a round of discussion about what you've heard with the goal to develop answers to the above issues, with a closeout planned for 3pm.

Speakers will post their presentations prior to the meeting so that consultants will have access to these presentations and additional supporting documentation prior to the start of the review.

Your assessment and advice will provide valuable and timely input to the ET in formulating the OSG work plan for years 3-5, and in preparing for the agency review. Please let us know if you have questions. We recognize and appreciate your participation in this important review.

Thank you very much!

Sincerely,

Lothar Bauerdick, OSG Executive Director  
Miron Livny, OSG PI