

CENTRAL SUBJECTS

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Eriko Porto

EELA Project
When "Communion" is
written between
continents, human
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RAU raised its connection
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of RAU

July 5 of 2005
CLARA and GDLN LAC
has signed a Cooperation
Agreement

Latin American Networks
can exchange data with
Internet?

LOCAL SUBJECTS

REUNA represented Latin
America in a spectacle
that united five continents

Through ADSIB, Bolivia
already has IPv6

Lima, 8-9 September:
III PROSPECT Peru 2005
Congress

AWARDS & GRANTS

AGENDA

Editorial

Placing CLARA in the Agenda of the Organization of American States

In order to attain the continuity of CLARA in the time, it is indispensable to get the support for the project from the governments of the Latin American region. An organism that integrates Latin American positions in the multilateral agenda is, undoubtedly, the Organization of American States (O.A.S.).

Thanks to the managements of our Executive Director, Florencio Utreras and of others of the members of our Directive Board, we have established one narrow collaboration with the office of Education, Science and Technology of the O.A.S. and with its director Alice Abreu.

The O.A.S. couldn't hold a meeting of ministers of Science and Technology of the region; finally, it was possible to program the First Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Science

and Technology for November 11 and 12 of 2004 in Lima, Peru. As complement to this meeting a series of workshops were carried out. Distinguished members of the world-wide community of academic networks were invited to the workshop celebrated in the city of Quito, Ecuador, in December 10 to 12 of 2004, that was coordinated by the Foundation for Science and Technology (FUNDACYT) of Ecuador and the Office of Science and Technology of the O.A.S. This meeting counted with the participation of forty experts of ten of the O.A.S. members countries. The National Science Foundation (NSF), of the United States, financed the participation of a dozen of experts. In the occasion, four areas of work were settled down: biotechnology, clean technologies and renewable energies, advanced networks and information technologies, and materials and nanotechnology.

In what is refer to Information Technologies and Advanced Networks it was concluded that the information infrastructure and the advanced networks constitute an essential vehicle to impel to the countries of the region towards competitive economies based on knowledge, and that they reinforce other areas of Science such as health and education; they offer access to global technological and scientific resources and harness the economic and social essential activities. The advanced networks and the information infrastructure are made of people, networks, software, storage and computation resources, digital libraries, scientific data bases, scientific instruments, local facilities and sensors.

In terms of policy and regulatory context, an investment in national advanced networks was recommended to stimulate the national and regional economic development in order to offer connectivity to each university and research centre, with a connection capacity of 100 Mpbs -as minimum- to the world-wide research and education networks by the end of 2006; to promote policies and a regulatory atmosphere that foment the development of an infrastructure of advanced networks and a fast access to the new technologies for research and education. In terms of creation and development of capacity, the workshop recommended the investment in the research capacity of the universities and research centres that allow and use the networks development; and an investment in the human resources to construct, to operate, to maintain and to help the users communities to utilize advanced networks infrastructures.

As support strategies were recommended to communicate the importance, benefits and uses of the networks to the local press, the authorities and the communities. It was recommended to focus in establishing first an information and local communication infrastructure, extending it in concentric circles towards a national, regional, continental and world-wide scale. It was recommended to establish broadband capacities to those who demand an immediate necessity, like, for example, the universities and the hospitals. Also it was recommended the promotion of the use of networks within the governments; the promotion of new models of telecommunication organization such as networks constituted by infrastructure owned by the universities and in the spirit of the open source; and to work with the municipal governments in the construction of optical fiber networks for the educational institutions (see the document in <http://www.science.oas.org/COMCYT/reunion04/IVComcytESP.pdf>).



Carlos Casasis
General Director of CUDI,
Vice President of CLARA.

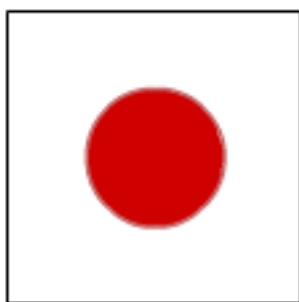
The Ministers of Science and Technology of the region recognized the importance of the academic networks in the Declaration of Lima, committing themselves to: "To facilitate the greater possible interaction between the researchers and the research and development centres, by means of the promotion of the establishment and consolidation of advanced research networks" (see <http://www.science.oas.org/Ministerial/ingles/documentos/docfinales/REMCYT-I-DECLARACION>).

I had the honor of being invited to represent CLARA in the XXXV Plenary Session of O.A.S. celebrated the past 5-7 of June in the city of Fort Lauderdale, Florida (United States), to participate in the dialogue with the Civil Society organizations, where it was emphasized the convenience of setting up hemispheric actions in the areas of science and technology, given that, for example, no country can individually promote a regional network efficiently.

Nevertheless, many of the limitations of the O.A.S. as organization were marked, since it does not have directly mechanisms to become of financial resources and it cannot do more than to recommend economic actions to the Inter-American Development Bank, and without authority faculties.

The O.A.S. has invited again CLARA to the Regional Forum with the Civil Society, in Buenos Aires (Argentina) in September 6-7, to work for the preparation of the Summit of the Americas that will be carried out celebrate in November 4-5 in the City of Río de La Plata, Argentina.

The subject of the Río de La Plata Summit is "To create work to face the poverty and to fortify the democratic governability". Our work will consist of making patent the message that to create jobs of a sustainable way in the modern world it is not possible without education and science, and for that it is essential the development of the advanced networks.



The connection between CLARA & the United States has been settled

Latin American Networks can Exchange Data with Internet2

María José López Pourailly

Saturday, July 9: The first direct connection between RedCLARA end the academic networks of the United States of America was established. The new link, with a capacity of 1Gbps, connects Tijuana (Mexico) with San Diego (California, USA), allowing the direct access between the Latin American network and CALREN, the academic network of California.

Besides, the traffic exchange agreement between RedCLARA an the main backbone of Internet2, Abilene, it has been confirmed. This will make easier the transit among the networks of USA and of Latin America.

The connection of RedCLARA to USA happens in the context of the WHREN/LILA project (Western Hemisphere Research and Education Network/Links Interconnecting Latin America), that counts with the economic founding of the National Science Foundation (NSF - USA).

WHREN/LILA will settle a second connection between CLARA and Internet2, that is going to be established from São Paulo (Brazil) to Miami (USA). This last connection will be shared between CLARA, RNP and the academic network of São Paulo, ANSP.

CLARA was created in July of 2002 and it was raise as an official institution in December 23 of 2003. During that time the European Commission assigned a contract of € 12,5 millions to finance the connection of RedCLARA to the pan European network, GÉANT, in the framework of the ALICE Project (Latin America Interconnected to Europe - América Latina Interconectada con Europa).

Since RedCLARA started its operation, in August 31 of 2004, seven Latin American countries have been connected to it. The most recent ones: Peru, April 19, and Uruguay, June 6. Through these continental dimensions, CLARA allows the scientific research on a regional scale, collaborating with the development of the involved countries.



RedCLARA NEG TREK

The Return of Captain Eriko Porto

María José López Pourailly

New reports of the voyages of the CLARA Network Engineering Group - NEG have been written by Captain Porto in his diary. We found them, that's our mission... Which is their mission? You should remember:

Following the route drawn up by the crew of the ALICE Project -the mother airship-, to explore new worlds, to seek out the unique and perfect way to establish the CLARA ring backbone and the connection of the Latin-American NRENs to it and to Europe - to boldly go where no other Latin-Americans has gone before, and to take CLARA members there.

Follows an update of CLARA Starship activities: Follows an update of CLARA Starship activities:

Wednesday 20, April 2005

We have a new client. The Peruvian network (RAAP) is now connected to the CLARA backbone. We've tested the link and managed to establish a BGP session with their edge router, and for the next weeks we expect to connect their main universities to the network, and start the announcement of their prefixes inside CLARA backbone.

Also we've acquired our IPv6 prefix from LACNIC:

```
inetnum: 2001:1348::/32
status: allocated
owner: Cooperación Latino Americana de Redes Avanzadas
ownerid: UY-CLAR-LACNIC
```

I'm longing for our meeting next week at Veracruz (MX) in order to seize the opportunity to enhance our discussions about the IPv6 implementation within CLARA network.

As our brave ship continues growing, it becomes very urgent that all NRENs formally define their Access Points (APs), meaning the person who will be our technical contact from the NREN side. We need to prepare a list to be published at the NOC website, and we need to keep CLARA members informed about when a link is out of service for maintenance, for instance, and other operational stuff. I did implore them to define these names as soon as possible, and forward them to our email addresses (noc@redclara.net and neg@redclara.net), with all the possible forms of contact available (I told them that Messenger and Skype IDs are very much desirable). This has to be formal because it is a requirement based on the LA-NRENs Operational Procedures document.

Hope to meet again most of NREN friends next week in Mexico (uhaaaaaaa! Tequilas and Tacos!... I'm pleased that no one will read this, I'm a serious guy).

Wednesday 22, June 2005

Since the beginning of this month we have a new client connected to RedCLARA, which is the NREN from Uruguay - RAU (Red Académica Uruguaya).

We have now 7 LA-NRENs connected to RedCLARA and many projects being developed that started in our last meeting at Veracruz (Mexico). These important projects are in the hands of the CLARA Work Groups established at Veracruz (mmm... those Tacos and Tequilas), their coordinators and participants. The main goals are to develop recommendations in the areas of IPv6, Multicast, Advanced Routing, Videoconference and others to the LA-NRENs and to RedCLARA itself.

We are at this moment working hard to finish the process of connecting the Central American NRENs from Guatemala, Nicaragua, El Salvador and Costa Rica. The negotiations of the contract with the provider have been finished, the technology to be used for these connections is defined, and we are now working to acquire the auxiliary equipment needed to complete the task.

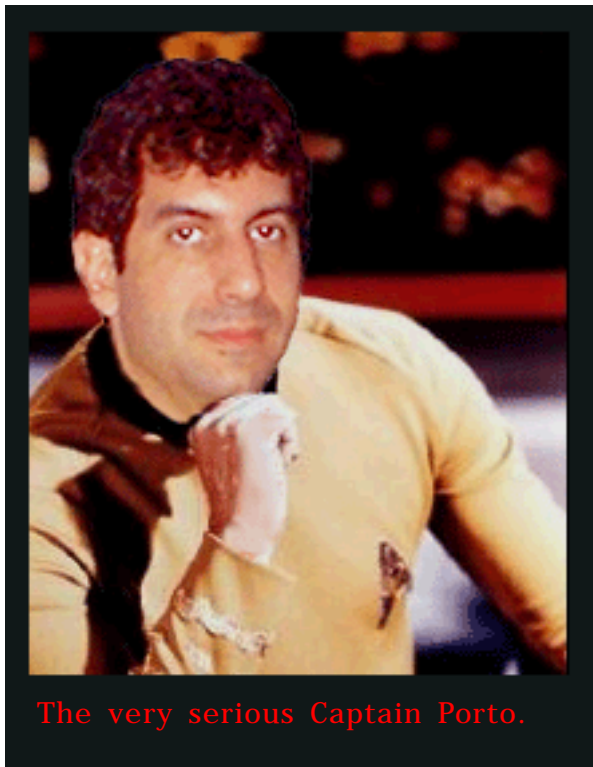
The demands to the NOC team are increasing as the network grows, and in order to better do their job we need to define the APMs from the LA-NRENs, mainly the ones that are already connected to the backbone.

RNP and REUNA already have their APMs defined (my plead was hear... but it's not enough). We need urgently the APMs from RETINA, CUDI, REACCIUN, RAU and RAAP (should I beg again?).

I sent the new version of the LA-NREN procedures document -that explains the APM role and other important procedures for peering with RedCLARA- to all the CLARA members. Also the NEG had published some new documents that are available through the Intranet of CLARA's website, together with the revised versions of the old ones.

Friday 22, July 2005

With my brave ship crew we have managed to complete the fiber link between San Diego and Tijuana. This link is shared by RedCLARA and CUDI (Mexico) to access the USA networks. Now we have a direct BGP peering with CalREN - California Research and Education Network (<http://www.cenic.org/CalREN/>)- and a provisional multihop BGP peering with Abilene (<http://abilene.internet2.edu/>). We are working in conjunction with the CLARA-NOC and engineers from both networks on a more robust solution for peering with Abilene using tunneling.



The very serious Captain Porto.

The CLARA-NOC website is operational at <http://www.noc-clara.unam.mx/>, and although still under development, there are some tools very useful to verify the status of the links, and a Proxy Router tool allowing the NRENs to check the routing conditions of the network.

The GT-IPv6 working group is finishing the addresses allocation for the interfaces of the backbone, and we will start to implement IPv6 routing at the backbone for some tests first, in order to check the IOS and platform compliance. If the tests are approved we will proceed establishing IPv6 peering with the regional networks and LA-NRENs that already have native IPv6 implemented.

Friday 12, August 2005

RedCLARA has native IPv6 implemented at its backbone since the 9th of August. After a period of tests to check the stability of the routing process we begin to establish IPv6 MBGP peering sessions, mainly with the regional networks and NRENs that already have IPv6 operational in their backbones.

At this moment we have operational IPv6 peering with CalREN and RETINA, and we are planning to establish IPv6 peering with GEANT and CUDI by the end of this week.

This is one of the first outcomes of the IPv6 workgroup and well represents what is expected from the works in progress. The collaboration spirit and fortitude of the participants, and all the contributions originated from the discussions and survey efforts made possible this achievement.

The work of the CLARA-NOC and the efficient coordination between them and the APMs was essential for this rapid service activation. We need to continue our work to improve more and more these mechanisms, in order to have a very well integrated network services amongst all groups.

We will now proceed with the work to activate the new connections with the other LA-NRENs and adjusting the services we already have.

Warning: If you get to see Captain Porto, remember to pretend that you don't know about his "uhaaaaa!" thing with Tacos and Tequila, he is a serious guy.

Through ADSIB, Bolivia already has IPv6

The 6th version of the Internet Protocol (IPv6) was granted to the Agency for the Development of the Information Society in Bolivia (ADSIB). This is one of the BOLNET projects and its objective is to improve the communication in all its action area and to increase the speed, for of development aims.

The 6 of July LACNIC (Address register of Internet for Latin America and the Caribbean) assigned the IPv6 to ADSIB, constituting to the organization in the first Bolivian network in counting on this protocol.

ADSIB works for the development of the information in Bolivia and, in this way, its principal actors are the mass media, the social communication faculties, the audio and video producers, and the journalists, among others; in addition it includes all the state institutions, and to the public and private sectors. According to what ADSIB informed at BOLNET Web site, in regard to the character of its users "it is truly necessary to be to the vanguard of the technology and to offer the best options of information so to achieve, in the future, our objective that is to create the information society".

By means of IPv6, ADSIB will be able to offer new applications and services in the areas of research, education and communication, to the communities that integrate it. The following passage for Bolivia, in this route of advance and development, will be its connection to RedCLARA.



M. Alejandra Lantadilla Budinich

Related article in BOLNET: <http://www.bolnet.bo/titulares/julio.htm#noticia1>

EELA Project

When "Communion" is Written Between Continents, Human Beings, Science and Technology

Presented in May to the 6th Framework Programme for Research, Technological Development and Demonstration, of the European Commission (EC), "E-Infrastructure shared between Europe and Latin America" (EELA) further more than a project that speaks about a powerful and useful technological infrastructure, is an enormous challenge of collaboration that, because of its recent approval, will be traduced in the union of two continents and 22 institutions by means of a powerful human network.

María José López Pourailly

Using pilot resources available in some centers of Europe (Spain, Portugal and Italy, already integrated within the framework of the European project EGEE) and Latin America (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Mexico, Peru and Venezuela), EELA will create a human network dedicated to work in Grids, e-Science and e-Infrastructure. This does not only suppose a specific support of each one of the parts members of the project, also implies the integration and perfect communion between each one of those parts.

The extraordinary goals reached in Europe in the scope of advanced networks and research infrastructure, have paved the way for the development of a powerful Grid infrastructure, that allows distributed computation and shared storage between different geographic and administrative dominions. All this E-Infrastructure -where the initiatives of GÉANT and EGEE are leaders- has resulted in the creation of an ideal platform for the development of new methods of collaborative research (E-Science).

And, all the previous paragraph explanation, where does it go? Simple: It goes in the direction of the great goal of EELA: through specific support actions, to position the Latin American countries at the same level of the European developments in terms of E-Infrastructure. And good, now that the network infrastructure in Latin America is stable, thanks to the ALICE project and the conformation of RedCLARA, the EELA focus will be in the Grids infrastructure and in some related E-Science applications. Therefore, the project's participant institutions have concentrated the



formulation of their main goal in two fundamental scopes: the creation of a human network in E-Science -valuing its necessities and giving training to it-, and the conduction of the technological developments that will allow to develop and to operate the Grid in the region.

For the project coordinator, Jesús Casado, "the fundamental importance of EELA is to start up a common infrastructure in Latin America and Europe, interconnected by means of the CLARA and GÉANT networks, in which to implement certain applications of general interest: Biomedicine, Particle physics, E-education and climate". This vision is complemented with the one of Miguel Cárdenas, who's in charge of the security and the interoperability of the Grid in CIEMAT and was one of the editors of the EELA project; Cárdenas sustains that "the fundamental thing will be to establish the human networks, the relations, and to establish the operation protocols both segments of the Grid, the European and the South American. The idea is to make it extremely homogenous to prevent differences in the system user experience. In addition, with the project we are trying that the Grid technologies start to be shared between by the two continents, helping to reduce the digital breach".

Three lines sketch the integrated work of the members of EELA:

"Sharing of Infrastructure through the deployment of Grid middleware in the different resource centres, assembling a large distributed testbed supported by Operation Centres and hosting Virtual Organizations for different researchers' communities, while keeping interoperability with the large EGEE infrastructure."

"Support for the deployment on this infrastructure of enhanced applications already available in the EGEE

framework, and adaptation and integration with the basic middleware of new ones, selected by its relevance for collaborative research between Europe and Latin America."

"Organization of training and dissemination activities like presentations and demonstrations, conferences, open days, in coordination with the EGEE initiative, and with the HELEN ALFA project at academic level."

These lines are clearly visible in the three defined primary goals: to establish a collaboration network, to share an interoperable Grid infrastructure, and to identify and promote a frame of sustainability for E-Science. However, these three objectives are detached from the great goal, which is to build a bridge between the existing E-Infrastructure initiatives that are in process of consolidation in Europe, and those that are emerging in Latin America, all of this through the creation of a collaborative network that will share an interoperable Grid infrastructure to support the development and test of advanced applications.

This initiative is considered strategic to reinforce the collaboration between Latin America and Europe, taking advantage of the establishment of the connection and of the advanced network that has been developed thanks to the ALICE project: RedCLARA. In this sense, the importance of identifying those communities of relevant users for the objectives of the project, and



Jesus Casado

the efforts that might be done in dissemination and training, are maximum. Because of that this work will be oriented to define a frame that assure the sustainability of the project. In words of Jesús Casado in the EELA, "the greater challenge will be to manage the activities of putting in operation and of maintenance of such a dispersed infrastructure, to make it compatible with Europe, and to suitably form the responsible staff and the possible end users".

"The project will make available of the researchers a very powerful structure of calculation on which to make complex investigations in a simple way, that will be able to be extended in a future to serve as basis to a greater community of users. In addition it will allow Latin America to enter in an ordered form and as a group in this Grid technology", argues Casado, totally convinced of the relevance of EELA. Further more, he assures that in addition "it is possible to frame EELA within the policies of the European Commission of extension of the services on the already existing communication networks".



Miguel Cárdenas

In the same line, Miguel Cárdenas said, just before of sending the project to the FP6, that "the European Union should approve this project, because otherwise a set of countries with a great scientific potential would be left outside of the development. Latin America

must have its specific weight in the use and development of the Grid". Obviously the person in charge of the security and interoperability of the CIEMAT Grid, does not have doubts respect to the benefits that the EELA project will generate: "In the short term, the creation of the human network will improve the contacts between both scientific communities, allowing to open new routes of collaboration between groups until now disconnected. In the long term it is much more difficult to anticipate; without a doubt, the improvements in the communications and in the technologies to them associated, will be one of the added values that could be observed".

After the analysis, the EELA project was approved in July 23, and today the documents for the contracts assignments between its members are in preparation. The cards are already thrown and after the positive resolution dictated by the 6 th Frame Programme for the project execution, it is worthy to remember a forceful and categorical opinion given by Miguel Cárdenas, and to maintain it fresh and always present in our minds: "Latin America must have its specific weight in the use and development of the Grid". Yes, Latin America must have it and with EELA will have it.

URL: <http://www.eela-grid.org>

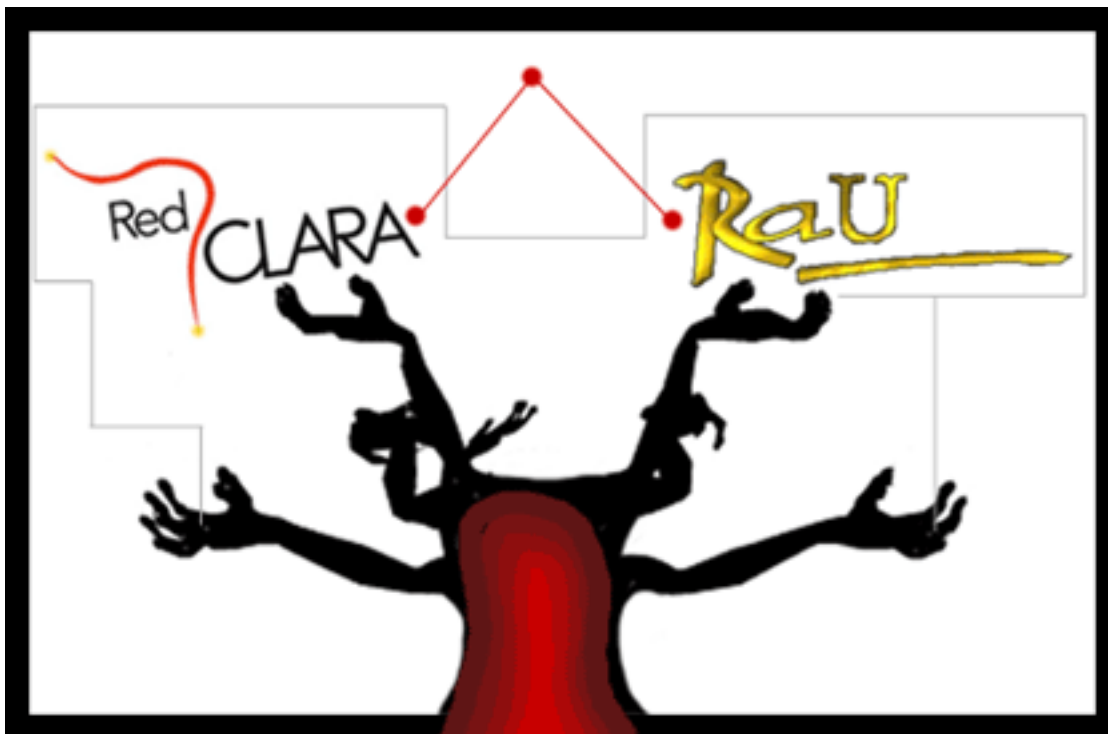
EELA member institutions:

1. CIEMAT (coordinator) - Centro de Investigaciones Energéticas Medioambientales y Tecnológicas (Spain)
2. CSIC - Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (Spain)
3. UFRJ - Universidade Federal do Rio do Janeiro (Brazil)
4. UPV - Universidad Politécnica de Valencia (Spain)
5. ULA - Universidad Nacional Los Andes (Venezuela)
6. CNEN - Comissão Nacional de Energia Nuclear (Brazil)
7. INFN - Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare (Italy)
8. CUBAENERGIA - Centro de Gestión de la Información y Desarrollo de la Energía (Cuba)
9. UTFSM - Universidad Técnica Federico Santa María (Chile)
10. CLARA - Cooperación Latinoamericana de Redes Avanzadas
11. UFF - Universidade Federal Fluminense (Brazil)
12. UNAM - Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (Mexico)
13. CEDERJ - Centro de Educação Superior a Distância do Estado de Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)
14. RNP - Rede Nacional de Ensino e Pesquisa (Brazil)
15. CERN - European Organization for Nuclear Research
16. LIP - Laboratorio de Instrumentação y Física Experimental de Partículas
17. SENAMHI - Servicio Nacional de Meteorología e Hidrología (Peru)
18. UC - Universidad de Cantabria (Spain)
19. REUNA - Red Universitaria Nacional (Chile)
20. UDEC - Universidad de Concepción (Chile)
21. REDIRIS - Red Académica y de Investigación Española (Spain)
22. UNLP - Universidad Nacional de La Plata (Argentina)

Rapidly Luis Castillo spread the news

RAU Raised its Connection to RedCLARA in June 6

Torrents of emails of the members of CLARA celebrated the fact
Swiftly Ida Holz remembered the importance of the cooperation and solidarity
Fast and strong the growth of the network is anticipated



María José López Pourailly

Exact half an hour took to Luis Castillo, RAU engineer -Uruguayan Academic Network-, to pass the voice of the great news that would mark in the calendar of CLARA with red and stars the 6 of June. The following is a non fiction story, is the festive dialogue that, in electronic mail format, was carried out through the network. By the way, the identities have not been disguised; celebrations must be written with the full name... and of course this case is not an exception, cause the connection of Uruguay marks a fundamental step for the regional and international cooperation of Latin American and Charrúas researchers and academics.

Subject: RAU (UY) raised it connection to RedCLARA
Date: Mon, 06 Jun 2005 12:22:20 -0400

Luis Castillo (RAU - Uruguay): Dear all, I have the pleasure to communicate you that exactly half an hour ago, the connection of 34Mbps to RedCLARA ping 200.0.204.153

!!!!!!
Success rate is 100 percent (1000/1000), round-trip min/avg/max = 20/22/24 ms

I appreciate the collaboration of Antel, Telecom, Global Crossing, the CLARA NOC, Eduardo, Hans, Víctor, and of the NEG, Eriko. And many people more... I do not know their names! Thanks to all for the effort!

Joaquín Guerrero (RAAP - Peru): A hug for Uruguay! Excellent news the one of this great step. Now it comes the most difficult, that it is to extract all the possible juice to the network.

Rafael Ibarra (RAICES - El Salvador): The joy and satisfaction of each one of the friends/partners networks are of all. Congratulations! One more inside!

Michael Stanton (RNP - Brazil): What a good thing! Now I will be able to go to Montevideo this week for the "Regional Meeting of Science, Technology and Society" event. :-) A hug.

Ida Holz (RAU - Uruguay): All moved!!! I believe that this step is for us a cooperation sign, it is about the solidarity of all the companions of CLARA and DANTE, and, what to say about the fulfillment of a dream! At the same time, I cannot forget to mention the work and dedication from this side, of the companions of the RAU, in special Luis, Sergio and Mónica, that have cooperated without respite so that a this could be a reality. We will advance together, that is the best way to advance!

Fernando Muro (CUDI - Mexico): Congratulations Luis, we will be awaiting to make specific applications.

Gilberto Landaeta (REACCIUN2 - Venezuela): Congratulations from Venezuela to all the fellows of RAU. Let's follow ahead.

Carlos Frank (Argentina - RETINA): Dearest Neighbor, congratulations to you and to the cousin Ida! A great hug, and our recognition by the permanent support, does not matter what happens! That it is not little to say in our latitudes.

Glorizel García (SENACYT - Panama): Congratulations, I'm really happy to know that another member managed to connect; Panama will initiate in a little while.

Roberto Blandino (RENIA - Nicaragua): We congratulate from Nicaragua this transcendental step of Uruguay, greetings to Luis and Ida.

Nelson Simões (RNP - Brazil): Parabéns Luis, Ida and to all the people involved in this historical moment. We are closely together now!

Pablo Greenwood (Arandu - Paraguay): Many congratulations by the success. I hope that the cooperation spirit prevails so that soon all we will be connected. These events give us forces to continue working. A hug.

Florencio Utreras (CLARA): Dear Friends, a great hug to all, in particular to Ida and Luis, that are part of the people who have dreamed this moment for a long time. Of course that the congratulations goes also for Eriko, Hans and for all those that have worked as much in this. 7 already! We have left 11!

Carlos Casarus (CUDI - Mexico): Many congratulations to all!

Enrique Peláez (CEDIA - Ecuador): How good Luis, I am sincerely glad. We are anxious of being able to notify the same soon. A hug.

Paola Arellano (REUNA - Chile): Many congratulations Ida and Luis, and to all those that have collaborated so that this is a reality. Count with all the support of REUNA. A hug.

Vigny Alvarado (CR2Net - Costa Rica): Congratulations, I hope that soon we will have the same joy in this side of Central America. Greetings to @ll.



The Uruguayan Academic Network (RAU) is an endeavor of the University of the Republic, administered by SeCIU, that operates since 1988.

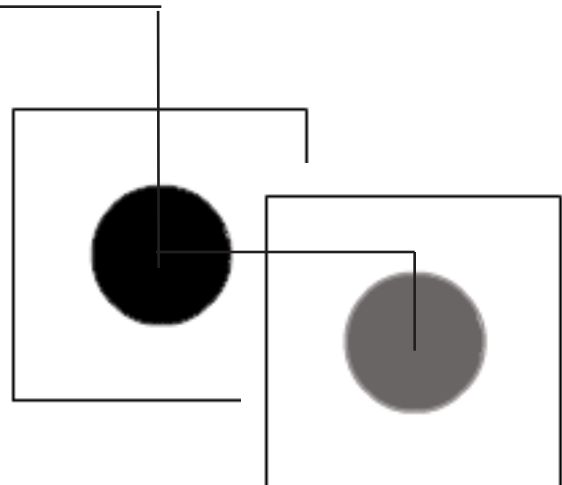
RAU gathers the Faculties, Schools, Institutes and Services of the University of the Republic and to numerous organizations of education and research of the country. RAU serves to all the academic actors of the country and of the Uruguayan society as a whole. RAU follows the guidelines established in the regional and world-wide instances of reflection on the mission of the University Academic Networks.

RAU looks for to be a scope of integration, communication and discussion, at the service of the objectives of the education, the investigation and the social transformations. It plays a very important role as a diffusion tool, interchange and access to the national, regional and international information centers, as well as in the execution and defense of the policies and interests of the academic community in these subjects.

RAU gives services to 31 Faculties, Institutes and Schools, 6.516 educational institutions, 1.065 technical institutes, and to 60.000 students.

Antel Data gives the connectivity between SeCIU (Central Service of University Computer science) and each one of the Faculties and Uruguayan Universities to RedCLARA.

In which to CLARA concerns, RAU has been a foundational member, and now it is in the city of Montevideo (capital of Uruguay) where is base the address of CLARA as Civil Association.

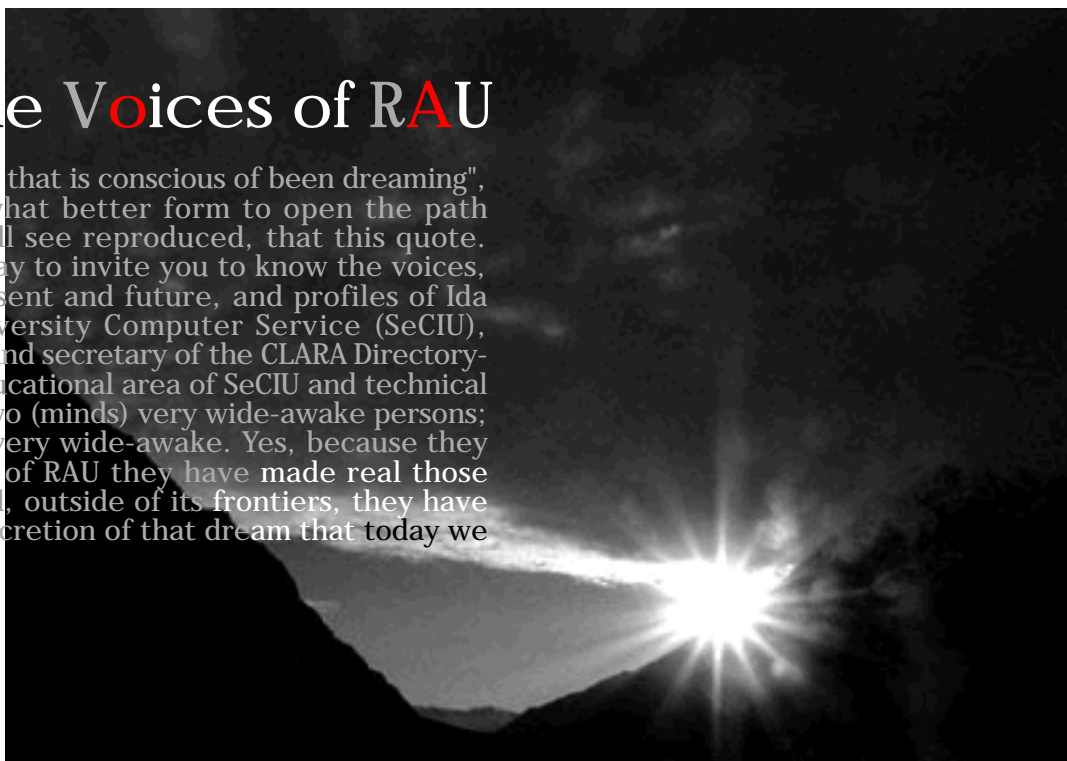


Ida Holz and Luis Castillo:

The Wide-Awake Voices of RAU

"For me, only is wide-awake the one that is conscious of been dreaming", wrote Miguel de Unamuno, and what better form to open the path towards the dialogue that next will see reproduced, that this quote. Definitely I can't find a better way to invite you to know the voices, thoughts, emotions, visions of present and future, and profiles of Ida Holz -director of the Central University Computer Service (SeCIU), institution that is in charge of RAU, and secretary of the CLARA Directory- and Luis Castillo -member of the educational area of SeCIU and technical representative of RAU in CLARA-, two (minds) very wide-awake persons; for been such a kind of dreamers, very wide-awake. Yes, because they have dreamed a lot and by means of RAU they have made real those dreams of advance for Uruguay and, outside of its frontiers, they have been a fundamental part in the concretion of that dream that today we name as **CLARA**.

María José López Pourailly



Photograph: Miguel Lagos Kushner.

With Ida and Luis we got together via email and, through the same tool, we entered into a levelheaded dialogue, full of powerful memories and very amplest horizons.



DeCLARA: RAU operates since 1988. 17 years it is a sufficient time to look back to rescue the good experiences, remember the bad ones -to not repeat them- and to watch the future. How would you summarize the history of RAU? What of that history must be remembered in order to rescue its good lessons?



Ida Holz: I would say that the one of RAU is one accelerated history of facts that were changing the vision of communication, collaboration and interchange.

Uruguay is a very small country, with very little population and much emigration. The lack of labor opportunities, the deficiency of resources for the professional development, has been causing, for many years, the emigration of our young people and, also, the return to the mother country of the immigrants and/or their descendants.

To have RAU has allowed, in first term, to protect the bows with our students of post degree and with our scientists. And that fact grew towards the valuation of the cooperation, the interchange, that deepens day to day, mainly with the accomplishment of the dream of the Latin American and international cooperation, produced in RedCLARA.

Luis Castillo: I believe that RAU has been an important tool that allowed the Academy to be a step ahead in the necessities of communication, opportunities and incorporation of knowledge and technology. Today we can say that this has become a very strongly incorporated necessity in the daily work.

The most important wealth is the human resources that throughout these years has been possible to forge, incorporating techniques and ways of working, with a very good professional level. The power to share experiences with other networks of Latin America and the Caribbean have allowed to improve much in this sense.





Which is the fundamental importance of RAU for Uruguay?



Ida: As I commented previously, the most important it is to help the country to be not isolated and locked up in itself. Uruguay was, until the first half of the 20th century, a pioneer country in terms of education and social security. It would be enough to say that the secular and gratuitous education -at all the levels-, including the existence of the University of the Republic, is contained in the Constitution of 1830.

Then, the consecutive economic and political crises generated a great backward movement in the standard of life of our citizens and in the level of education in all the degrees, fundamentally in the superior education. Recently, a little more than one decade ago, it begins the process to revert the attention to the superior education. Without a doubt, RAU allows that the communication and the interchange becomes more fluid and this fact is has constituted in a factor of advance in the research and academic development.

Luis: RAU has been important for the universities and research centres in Uruguay, it is a tool for the defense of the academic interests that contrasts with the increasing commercialization of the Internet.



In Latin America, Uruguay is the country with more Hosts in relation to the number of inhabitants, and this relation is repeated in the case of the number of connections to Internet. How does these data affects the work of RAU?



Ida: The history of Internet in Uruguay begins with the connection of the University of the Republic, obtained after three years of negotiation, as much at internal level as with the telephone Company Antel, state-owned and monopolistic in those years (today it remains state-owned and only monopolistic in the basic telephony). That fact generated a recognition to RAU that has lasted in time and, somehow, has make easier its work.

Luis: In a very good sense, since it allows a better knowledge of what is wanted and what is persecuted, from the point of view of the end user, like from the institutional point of view. In any case it is still a lot to do, so that the ICTs consolidate and we advance towards the incorporation of the elements that compose the concept of information society.



Now, besides of Uruguay progress process, RAU has participated from the beginning -ever since the Toledo Meeting- in the conformation of CLARA, first with the CAESAR project and soon with ALICE, and therefore to RedCLARA. What took to Uruguay, through RAU, to bet by this project? Why Uruguay could not be outside of it?



Ida: From its beginnings RAU has participated actively in the forums of academic networks of Latin America and other organisms related to Internet and always, the creation of a Latin American academic network was a dream, a bet of future concretion. It would be enough to read the document of creation of the Forum of Networks subscribed in Brazil in 1991 and the following activities, to understand that Uruguay always was present in the effort to make real a project like the one that we are in process to implant.

Luis: I see it as a dream, and as a lot of organized work to reach it; a work that generated the cooperation between people who believed possible to make real that dream.



If you were asked to give a mark to CLARA because of its institutional and technical operation, what marks would you put to it?



Ida: It is not easy to mark, because it is always possible to be better. I believe that CLARA only it could be marked when all the countries of Latin America get connected, then we will be able to see how it is administered and what consequences it will produce in the advance of the cooperation.

Luis: I believe that, at regional level, the examples of a network of such a good capacity and so fast to put in operation, are few, that gives us force as region. RedCLARA is the work of all; as all work, is perfectible, but it is an excellent regional development tool, that puts us in the suitable world-wide level. I believe that the conformation is good, and counts on an ample and balanced participation. The operation is recent, but we counted on very good and experienced human resources.





Two months of established the connection of RAU to RedCLARA has passed. What is your perception of the network and which are your expectations about the benefits that it can report to Uruguay and its scientific and academic communities?



Ida: This we will be able to evaluate it when we have advanced more in the installation of the advanced Uruguayan network, RAU2. It has been a time to consolidate the operation of the network and, mainly, that this one begun to be use in all its potentiality. Our expectation is great and we hope that this helps in the improvement of the academic and research conditions of our country.

Luis: RAU2 is in the heat of development in Uruguay, and will connect to the main academic and research actors of the country. Although the national connections are not still as fast as we want, we are already routing traffic to RedCLARA and also we have made and participated in several videoconferences of excellent quality by it.



There is still a lot to do...



From your personal perspective, what is the most important thing about CLARA?



Ida: That it fortifies the bows between our countries.

Luis: That this it is the way to share projects and programs, this justifies the networks existence. It is not just about sharing projects with the countries of the G8, but with the pairs, horizontally between the countries of our region and the world.



In order to bring this conversation to a close and considering the tribune in which DeCLARA has been constituted, in a personal view, is there any message that you would like to transmit to the members of CLARA?



Ida: We have managed to make a dream come truth. My hope is that we continue working together, more and more united for the benefit of our Latin America.

Luis: Let's always think in big, and let's manage to make compatible the rights of the others with the one of our networks.



As a closing, and since we began with a quotation, I will visit a pair of lines with which Augusto Tamayo, in its Hispano-American Notebooks, described Latin America, and I clarify, I will do it simply because the words of Ida and Luis took me to think that it is necessary to reformulate them. I cite: "Latin America is formed by great isolations of similar men". I reformulate: "Latin America is formed by great alliances of similar human beings".



Equipo RAU2

Lima, 8-9 September:

III PROSPECT Congress Peru 2005

"Constructing the future competitiveness of the organizations" it is the motto of the III the National Congress of Prospective: PROSPECT Peru 2005, that during the 8 and 9 of September will be carried out in the Sports Coliseum of the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru (PUCP). The event, that will count with outstanding international panelists, will be transmitted to all Latin America by means of RedCLARA.

Antecedents

Prospective: scientific discipline that helps to reduce the uncertainty of the future scenes. It has been used as a tool of planning of public and venture policies for more than five decades. Japan recognizes in the use of the prospective, one of the central strategies adopted for its development in the electronics and the automobile industrial activities.

Congress

Organizers: PUCP, Ricardo Palma University, Wiener University, National Council of Science Technology and Innovation - CONCYTEC, Peruvian Institute of Administration of Companies - IPAE, and the National Confederation of Private Enterprise Institutions - CONFIEP. An alliance subscribed between the organizing institutions, will allow to institutionalize this Congress in order to promote the use of the prospective as a tool of planning and identification of future scenes, as well as to spread the studies of prospective that are executed in Peru and to interchange experiences between investigators, government officials and industrialists, as much to the interior of the Peruvian borders like with the world.

Panelists:

Alan Porter (the U.S.A.), Professor of prognosis and evaluation of the technology and technological management in the University of Washington;

Chatri Sripaipan (Thailand), Director of the Center of Technological Prospective of the APEC;

Paavo Löppönen (Finland), Director of the Academy of Sciences of Finland, in charge of the policies of science and research;

Gilda Massari (Brazil), Strategic Consultant of the Center of Management and Studies, member of the Technology Futures Analysis Methods Working Group;

Solitude Diaz (Cuba), Director of the Cuban Observatory of Science and Technology;

Véronique Lamblin (France), Director of Future Studies and of Strategy of the group FUTURIBLES;

Javier Medina (Colombia), Manager of the Colombian Programme of Technological Prospective - COLCIENCIAS;

Francisco José Mojica (Colombia), Director of the Centre of Strategic Thought and Prospective of the Externado University of Colombia;

Lélio Fellows Filho (Brazil), International Coordinator of the Latin American Network of Prospective and Technological Vigilance of the CYTED Programme.

More information: www.pucp.edu.pe/prospecta2005



July 5, 2005

CLARA and GDLN LAC Signed a Cooperation Agreement

The agreement -signed by David Gray, GDLN Regional Coordinator in Latin America and The Caribbean, and Florencio Utreras, Executive Director of CLARA- was subscribed at the end of the second day of the Fifth GDLN Workshop - Latin America and The Caribbean: Lima-Peru 2005, held between the 4 and 6 of July, in dependencies of the Swissôtel Lima. The event was supported in it's development by the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru.

María José López Pourailly



David Gray, Regional Coordinator of GDLN in Latin America and the Caribbean, and Florencio Utreras, Executive Director of CLARA, signing the Cooperation Agreement

“Thanks to CLARA we introduce a new backbone in our network, and the potential is unlimited because its expansion in the region; and for its support in high speed and low costs, will allow us to reach more people and to expand our programs”. With these words the GDLN Regional Coordinator in Latin America and The Caribbean, David Gray, celebrated the subscription of the Cooperation Agreement between GDLN LAC and CLARA, that took place on July 5th, around 18:30 hours of Lima, in the frame of the Fifth GDLN Workshop - Latin America and The Caribbean: Lima-Peru 2005.

In general terms, this Cooperation Agreement look for the promotion of those cooperation activities that are carried out in Learning, Research and Extension, and to serve as a platform for the establishment of specific agreements for the completion of programs related to more concrete and delimited areas, with the aim of:

Contribute to the development, promotion and facilitation of the use of technologies devoted to the educational and social transformation of the region.

Cooperate in learning and of extension activities in subjects related with the development, research and learning.

Facilitate the perform of knowledge exchange, instruction, consulting and the dialogue in the subjects related to the economic and institutional development, that allow a direct flow of information between the members of CLARA and GDLN LAC.

Secure the exchange of knowledge and learning between people, organizations and institutions that participate and contribute to the diminution of the poverty, and to the social and economic development at a global scale.

And when it is about cooperation, and further more, when that cooperation is refer to the Latin American and The Caribbean countries, CLARA has a specific mission to which doesn't hesitate to respond. So was recognized by Jaime Quijandría, Executive Director of the World Bank, during his intervention in the Agreement sign ceremony, when he point that “today the processes of citizens advancement have much more relation with the access to the new technologies, that's why for the World Bank this cooperation agreement it's so relevant; success to CLARA”.

During the activity, Florencio Utreras, Executive Director of CLARA, said that by the end of the present year he hopes to have a thousand or more Latin America institutions connected to CLARA network (RedCLARA). Utreras thanked GDLN for the opportunity that this alliance provides to CLARA, also he recognized that “GDLN is a great partner for CLARA, one that generates interesting and pertinent content, not only for the universities, but also for the counties”. Finally, the Executive Director of CLARA reminded that the allies of GDLN in the whole Latin-American region are the universities, and therefore the members of CLARA”.

The Cooperation Agreement has a validity of two years, renewable.



The Cooperation Agreement has been signed...

Fifth GDLN Workshop - Latin America and The Caribbean

The experiences carried out during the last five years of activity of the Global Development Learning Network (GDLN) and the strategies for the future, where the central focus of the Lima (Peru) Workshop, that count with the participation of groups of South America and The Caribbean (GDLN LAC).

Through dynamic and participative sessions, the participants of the GDLN discussed about different collaboration ways to guarantee the knowledge exchange and about actions that allow GDLN to be a facilitator of the national, regional and global development agenda.

One of those sessions was destiny to the Networks subject, and to it was Florencio Utreras called to participate as a panelist. Among the questionings dedicated to CLARA, the ones of the knowledge promotion and of the videoconferencing applications for the GDLN projects, where the most relevant. In this context, Utreras invited the GDLN projects to reach the institutions that are members of CLARA in each of the countries that compose it's network -NREN, National Research and Education Networks- so, through them, get the connection to CLARA. In addition, and about contents, the Executive Director of CLARA indicated that "those are not defined by CLARA, they're defined by each of the CLARA partners", and he also remembered that in general terms their objectives must not be commercial. "We do not determined absolutely not a thing in terms of contents; we encourage those contents that are of the interest of our partners", said Utreras.

The quoted Network session, titled as "National Networks in GDLN LAC. Growth, management, learnt lessons", was moderated by José Luis Ramírez, Coordinator of the Capacitation and Distant Learning Centre (C-CAD) in the National Service of Personnel Management (SNAP) of Bolivia, and counted with the active participation of the following panelists:

Claudia Rojas, Director of the GDLN Distance Learning Centre in Colombia.

Florencio Utreras, Executive Director of CLARA.

Mauricio Olavarría, Director of the GDLN Distance Learning Centre in Chile (UVirtual).

José Franco, Director of the GDLN Distance Learning Centre in the Universidad Técnica Particular de Loja (UTPL) in Ecuador.

Milagrito Montenegro, Director of GDLN Peru - Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú.

Carolina Marturet, Director of the GDLN Distance Learning Centre in the Universidad Católica Andrés Bello of Venezuela.

José Morales, Director of the GDLN Distance Learning Centre in the Universidad Autónoma de Guadalajara, México.

GDLN LAC

GDLN LAC is looking forward to open new frontiers that allow it to establish a major presence at national level, in an action that includes new partners, advanced technology and an active exchange of knowledge and local experiences.

In addition to the discussions, the GDLN Centres of each participant country, were part of a Fair dedicated to show their products, to promote new strategic alliances with of development agencies and with other participants. CLARA was invited to participate in that Fair through the settlement of a stand in which, together with the Peruvian Academic Network (RAAP), it was carried out the promotion of CLARA's activities and network, RedCLARA.

The Fair was an opportunity to gather the different groups, to promote the integration of the work of the institutions and countries involved, and to look after for the commitment with the international networks, the private sector, and other institutions.



Florencio Utreras, Claudia Rojas (Colombia) and José Luis Ramírez (Bolivia - moderator), at the Networks Session.



Joaquín Guerrero, Executive Director of RAAP, David Gray and Florencio Utreras, in the CLARA stand at the en la Fair.

SIGGRAPH 2005

REUNA Represented Latin America in a Spectacle That United Five Continents

Thanks to the AccessGrid technology and the powerful capacities of connection of RedCLARA, through REUNA, Chile was united to the world-wide vanguard representing Latin America in the multimedia spectacle "In Common: TIME" that the famous musician James Oliverio, Director of the Digital Worlds Institute of the University of Florida, created for SIGGRAPH 2005, the International Conference of Computer Graphics and Interactive Techniques. The work was carried out during the 1, 2, 3 and 4 of August, in two shows at 19:00 and 19:30, and was transmitted to the world of the academic advanced networks by means of Internet2.

María José López Pourailly



The University of Florida's Digital Worlds Institute demonstrated its abilities to bridge five continents and cultures by creating an unprecedented real-time global collaboration for the world's largest computer art and interactivity conference in Los Angeles (CA - USA) on August 1-4, 2005.

As a result of its pioneering work first exhibited at the 2001 global SuperComputing Conference, Digital Worlds (DW) was invited to showcase its tools and techniques in the "Emerging Technologies" exhibit at SIGGRAPH, the industry's premiere venue for digital art and science.

DW showcased a live online distributed collaboration entitled "In Common: TIME". But James Oliverio, the piece creator, did not reserve the glories that he perceived for his creation only to DW, he invited to participate -and all accepted and did perform- to the following institutions:

Asia: Korea - Korean Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST)

South America: Chile - Red Universitaria Nacional (REUNA)

The Australian Continent: Australia - Australasian Cooperative for Research Centre Interaction Design (ACID) of the Queensland University of Technology

Europe: England - Digital Knowledge Exchange (DKE)

North America: The United States - New World School of the Arts (NWSA) in Miami and UF Colleges of Fine Arts and Engineering, PK Yonge Laboratory School and Millhopper Montessori School in Gainesville, Florida.

"In Common: TIME" featured performers ranging in age from 11 to 68, including musical artists from the five diverse world cultures. The purpose of the SIGGRAPH showcase was to illustrate how the emerging technology known as the Access Grid can empower not only international communication but shared collaboration and cultural understanding.

The Access Grid allows multiple people in multiple locations to come together in a shared virtual environment in real time, thus creating a truly global team that can assemble for a wide range of activities, ranging from education to research to cross-cultural performances.

To create this living global tapestry, UF Digital Worlds partnered with academic researchers and engineers from Internet2, the National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA), the Access Grid community, Purdue University, Boston University, industrial sponsor InSORS and SIGGRAPH.



General rehearsal at REUNA, the students of the Trehwela's School are ready to establish the connection with the rest of the world.



SIGGRAPH 2005

"In Common: TIME" was exhibited in SIGGRAPH 2005, the International Conference of Computer Graphics and Interactive Techniques that was carried out in Los Angeles (USA) from the 31 of July to the 4 of August. This one is considered as the greater multimedia world-wide event of the year; in it the best product exhibitors and services related to the industry of the computer graphics and of the interactive world market participate. George Lucas and the producers of "The Polar Express" and "Madagascar" were some of its most outstanding participants.

During the Conference it was carried out the Computer Animation Festival, an exhibition of Emergent Technologies in which were 32 interactive facilities of research laboratories, independent universities and artists; a Gallery of Art –destined to the exhibition of digital art-, and a space for Emergent Technologies that integrated for the first time the AccessGrid, thanks to the collaboration of the DW.

James Oliverio

James Oliverio is Professor and Director of the new Digital Worlds Institute at the University of Florida, an interdisciplinary program between the colleges of Engineering and Fine Arts. Oliverio is also a five-time Emmy Award winning composer and producer with credits ranging from orchestral soundtracks for film and television to large-scale multimedia productions.

An advocate of digital media and distance collaboration, Oliverio is a frequent speaker at national and international conferences. His interest in the cross-pollination of technology and culture resulted in the award for "Most Creative and Courageous" use of Internet2 at the global SuperComputing Conference 2001, and subsequent profiles on CNN and the BBC. Current projects at the UF Digital Worlds Institute integrate emerging technologies to enhance collaboration in education and research.



James Oliverio coordinating one of the rehearsals.

Participation of REUNA

By its experience in the collaborative works –performances- of James Oliverio and the DW, REUNA (Chilean NREN) was invited to participate in "In Common: TIME", representing Latin America. Given the characteristics of the new piece of Oliverio, that required of the participation not only of engineers and technicians, but also of children, musicians and cameramen, REUNA invited to be part of this of vanguard experience to the Trehwela's School and to the Metropolitan University of Sciences of the Education (UMCE).

The result

"In Common: TIME" became the artistic-technological jewel of SIGGRAPH. James Oliverio has indicated the success was so big that he would not be surprised if next year SIGGRAPH ask him to create a greater collaborative piece. And sure REUNA hopes to be invited again. But furthermore than the fantastic experience that "IN COMMON: TIME" was in terms of the technological challenge and of test of the capacities of the Chilean national network, for the transcontinental collaboration, which really enhance the hearts of those who integrate REUNA, was not another thing but the fantastic disposition to collaborate and to create of Marco Antonio Readi and Juan Valenzuela Guerrero (UMCE, cameramen), and of the children Cynthia Lozano, José Antonio Cancino, Nicolás Lacrampette, Jaime Pinto and Hugo Della Maggiora, of the Trehwela's School; mainly of the children, and of course, if they will be the ones who will enjoy all the advances and developments that today are created in the world of the advanced networks.

Digital Worlds Institute:
<http://www.digitalworlds.ufl.edu/>

In Common: TIME:
<http://www.digitalworlds.ufl.edu/projects/commontime>

SIGGRAPH 2005:
<http://www.siggraph.org/s2005/>

REUNA:
<http://www.reuna.cl>

Awards

Grants

CYTED 2005
<http://www.cyted.org/>
 Closing date: September 1.

Mexico Award of Science and Technology 2005
<http://www.cyted.org/TablonAnuncios/TablonAnuncios.asp>
 Closing date: September 30.

Agenda

August:

29 - 31: LANOMS 4th Latin American Network Operations and Management Symposium
<http://www.lanoms.org/2005>
 Porto Alegre, Brazil.



Photograph: Miguel Lagos Kushner.

September:

6-9: 20th APNIC Open Policy Meeting
<http://www.apnic.net/meetings/20/index.html>
 Hanoi, Vietnam.

8 - 9: III PROSPECT Congress Peru 2005
<http://www.pucp.edu.pe/prospecta2005>
 Sports Coliseum of the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru (PUCP), Lima, Peru.

19 - 22: Fall 2005 Internet2 Member Meeting
<http://events.internet2.edu/2005/fall-mm/calls.cfm>
 Philadelphia, United States.

26 - 29: iGrid2005
<http://www.igrad2005.org/>
 San Diego, United States.

28 - 30: 8th International Conference on Interactive Computer aided Learning (ICL2005)
<http://www.icl-conference.org>
 Carinthia Tech Institute, Villach, Austria.

October:

4 - 7 : 6th APRU Distance Learning and Internet Conference
<http://www.fenu.ru/dli2005/>
 Vladivostok, Russia.

10 - 14: RIPE 51 Meeting
<http://www.ripe.net/ripe/meetings/ripe-51/>
 Amsterdam.

24 -25: 2nd Workshop on Connecting Schools to NRENs
<http://www.terena.nl/schools/>
 London, United Kingdom.

30 Oct. - 2 Nov.: ACUTA Fall Seminars
<http://www.acuta.org/relation/downloadfile.cfm?docnum=446>
 Denver, CO, United States of America.