

2006 CIS External Review Highly Successful

A highly successful review of the technical program of the Computer and Information Sciences (CIS) ST&E Research Foundation was held on June 7 – 9, 2006 in Albuquerque. This was the first CIS External Review conducted under the direction of the University of Texas (UT), in the person of David Watson, Associate Vice Chancellor for Sandia Operations, and his assistant, Ms. Dawne Settercerri. UT took the lead on handling the logistics, while the CIS Council, comprising Center 1400 and Group 8960, managed all of the technical content of the review. The review panel of external experts was again chaired by Michael Levine, Director of the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center and Professor of Physics at Carnegie Mellon University. He was joined by:

- Bill Blake, Senior VP for Product Development, NETEEZA Corp.
- Steven Castillo, Dean of Engineering, NM State University
- John Hopson, Director, Advanced Simulation and Computing Program, LANL
- Peter Kogge, Computer Science & Engineering, Notre Dame U., Associate Dean of Engineering for Research, and the Ted H. McCourtney Professorship
- A. B. (Barney) Maccabe, Professor of Computer Science, U. New Mexico and Director of UNM Center for High Performance Computing
- Marc Snir, Head of Computer Science, U. Illinois, Urbana-Champaign and the Michael Faiman and Saburo Muroga Professorship
- Danny Sorensen, Chair of Computation and Applied Mathematics, Rice University and the Noah G. Harding Professorship

The review was successful both technically and operationally. The UT and CIS organizers worked well together, managed the complications of transitioning to a new process, and produced a well organized, efficient review. The CIS Research Foundation presented a set of well developed and effective talks on a broad sampling of its technical R&D efforts. The panel was complementary of both of these aspects of the review.

The committee was impressed with the generally excellent level of work, and evidence of good integration within CIS and collaboration with customers. It applauded the vertical integration of the groups, which pursue complementary, synergistic projects, and noted that the CIS program continues to play an exceptional, leading role in demonstrating the growing dependence of technological developments on high performance computing and simulation. It made particular note of outstanding examples of world-class research and leadership in:

- Computer Systems – making Red Storm a success. This is “a project of national importance.”
- Enabling Technologies – Current emphasis and future themes for ASC Verification and Validation.
- Applications Development – ALEGRA-HEPD Simulations for Z-Machine Applications. Excellent example of experiment-simulation collaboration on this important project for SNL and the U.S.A.

For more information, contact Bill Camp (1400) and Len Napolitano (8900).