



**MINORITY SERVING-  
CYBERINFRASTRUCTURE  
CONSORTIUM**



# Cyberinfrastructure Advancement Designed by and for HBCUs and TCUs

Internet2 Technology Exchange  
September 20, 2023



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## Panelists

**Al Anderson**

Chief Information Officer, Salish Kootenai College

**Tim Warren**

Chief Information Officer, Tennessee State University

**Dr. Febbie Dickerson**

Vice President for Academic Affairs, American Baptist College

**Dr. Lei Qian**

Associate Professor and Coordinator of Computer Science, Fisk University

## Moderator

**Lauren Michael**

Assistant Director for CI Facilitation, MS-CC

## THE VISION

MS-CC envisions a transformational partnership to promote advanced cyberinfrastructure (CI) capabilities on HBCU, HSI, TCU, and MSI campuses. We are advancing connections across campuses around data, research computing, teaching, curriculum development, professional development, and capacity-building.

We will learn and grow as a consortium, lifting up all participating institutions by advancing cyberinfrastructure for research and education across diverse fields, disciplines, and communities in ways that reflect the unique voices and interests of our communities.



**We will engage as full contributors to the global R&E community**

## MS-CC Guiding Principles

Inclusion | Innovation | Stakeholder Value

### MS-CC Purpose

- Increase access to cyberinfrastructure (CI) capabilities across academic disciplines
- Enhance communication between researchers, IT professionals, campus leadership, and between institutional members
- Support IT for research-enabled professional and career development
- Collective advocacy and partnerships

### MS-CC Stakeholders

- Researchers, educators, and students
- IT/CI professionals
- Campus leadership
- Industry partners
- Foundations and funding agencies





## CI Center of Excellence Demonstration Pilot (*Award # OAC-2137123*) and 21st Century Research-Cyberinfrastructure for MSIs through the MS-CC: A phased approach to engage the Missing Millions (*Award # OAC-2234326*)

### Key Objectives

- Create a **connective and collaborative organization** that serves as a centralized hub for HBCUs, TCUs, and other MSIs to utilize for CI expertise, experience-sharing, and advocacy.
- Increase awareness, availability, and financial support for **CI professional development** for faculty, staff, and students at HBCUs, TCUs, and other MSIs.
- **Enhance communication** among researchers, university leadership, and CI professionals.





## CI Center of Excellence Demonstration Pilot (*Award # OAC-2137123*) and 21st Century Research-Cyberinfrastructure for MSIs through the MS-CC: A phased approach to engage the Missing Millions (*Award # OAC-2234326*)

### Key Objectives

- Increase access to shared CI resources for MS-CC organizations.
- Increase and accelerate CI-enabled research and education capacity at MS-CC campuses by piloting a model(s) for cyberinfrastructure development at HBCUs, TCUs, and other minority-serving institutions.
- Initial allocation of **at least five (5) Proof of Concept Grant (PoCG) Awards** to select MS-CC institutions that allows each to perform campus specific CI assessments that drive an **overall CI strategic plan and a roadmap to pioneer new capabilities that advance CI-centric research, and empower scientific advancements.**



## MS-CC Proof-of-Concept Grant (PoCG) Program

- novel approach to CI planning and capacity building to advance research and education programs at TCUs and HBCUs
- **combination of funding and dedicated expert facilitation**
  - Up to \$250k in first year for local CI workforce development and planning activities
  - partnership with MS-CC's "Tiger Teams" of experts on campus CI capabilities and stakeholder alignment
- **up to 5 years of support**
  - five recipients announced April 13 for initial phase
  - future phase(s) dependent upon initial outcomes & additional funding
- complementary to existing CI funding mechanisms



# Save the Date for NOLA!

**DILLARD**  

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**UNIVERSITY**

**SUNO**  

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**SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY *at* NEW ORLEANS**

Nov. 15, 2023  
**Cyberinfrastructure Day**

Nov. 16, 2023  
**Cybersecurity Day**

More details coming soon via [www.ms-cc.org](http://www.ms-cc.org) with registration open in early October.

# Join Your Peers!

## MS-CC Communities of Practice (CoP)

### Cyberinfrastructure Plan CoP

- Community-driven experience sharing to support Cyberinfrastructure Plan development at HBCUs, TCUs, and other MSIs for IT leaders, staff, faculty, and/or others leading, interested in, or contributing to the development of documents for their campus.
- **3rd Tuesday of the month @ 2 p.m. ET**
- Next Zoom Meeting: **Oct. 17, 2023**

### **NEW!** Cybersecurity CoP

- Community-driven experience sharing to support and raise awareness of and best practices related to Cyberinfrastructure Cybersecurity at HBCUs, TCUs, and other MSIs for faculty, researchers, staff, and students.
- **2nd Tuesday of the month @ 2 p.m. ET**
- First Zoom Meeting: **Oct. 10, 2023**

## PoCG Phase I Progress, to Date

- **Piloted Proposal Solicitation, Dec'22 - Jan'23**
  - with iterative input from the initial set of candidates around *CI planning*
- **Piloted Review Process, Feb'23** emphasizing:
  - ability to achieve each PoCG's goals in light of proposed use of program resources and campus commitment
  - representative/informative value of each PoCG
  - (rather than approached as strengths vs. weaknesses)
- **Initial Tiger Teams assembled, Jan-Mar'23**
- **Rolling PoCG engagement kickoff, Mar-Jun'23**



## MS-CC PoCG Program Recipients



GROUNDING IN TRADITION.  
CHARGING INTO THE FUTURE.



**NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL  
AND TECHNICAL STATE UNIVERSITY**



### Multi-Campus CI Collaboration



## Early PoCG Objectives

### All

- Stakeholder Alignment toward formalized CI governance
- PoCG-funded CI Facilitator or CI Coordinator implementation

### Claflin University

- R&E Facilitation further informing HPC investment
- eduroam implementation

### Jackson State University

- R&E Facilitation further informing HPC investment
- Network enhancement, with eduroam implementation

### North Carolina A&T State University

- R&E Facilitation informing cybersecurity compliance support
- CI benchmarking and planning to support R1 goal

### Salish Kootenai College

- R&E Facilitation informing conference participation, CI governance
- Virtual Lab and Network enhancement, with eduroam implementation

### Nashville HBCUs

- Chartered *Nashville HBCU CI Collaborative*
- Coordinated network development and campus CI Plans



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SALISH KOOTENAI  
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## Questions?

*Cyberinfrastructure Advancement Designed by and for  
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