# Campus Bridging Birds-of-a-Feather Session at TeraGrid 2011 Conference

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Richard Knepper attended the TeraGrid 2011 conference in Salt Lake City, Utah, and together with representatives from the TeraGrid Campus Champions program conducted a Birds of a Feather session discussing the XSEDE Campus Bridging initiative and the Campus Champions program. The attendees discussed the Campus Bridging and Campus Champions plans for XSEDE.

Discussion largely focused on the decisions of the XSEDE architecture group and strategies that would allow local system administrators to incorporate XSEDE practices into their local builds. The attendees also expressed interest in installer kits or Rocks [1] rolls for software. XSEDE attendees commented that a substantial amount of work went into the TeraGrid Common User Environment. That work didn't necessarily need to be imposed on users of XSEDE or local campuses, but does provide a considerable amount of ground covered that could be useful for future efforts. A number of participants brought up the issue of integrating scheduling queues with XSEDE's service, citing OSG as one example of solid accomplishment in this area. The group noted that documentation and information about how XSEDE sites are set up would be extremely valuable; even relatively simple information about system architecture would be quite useful to regional and local CI system administrators. The XSEDE Campus Bridging group stated that there would be a call for proposals for pilot users of installation packages, which would begin in Fall 2011.

Further discussion focused on the status of Architecture Group decisions and the means for communicating needs for additional capabilities to the Architecture Group. Both Campus Bridging and Campus Champions groups noted that they will prepare outreach events which communicate XSEDE architecture choices to the community at large. Representatives of the Architecture group emphasized that multiple teams can gather requirements, but that they should be submitted in the end to the DOORS system in order to be best prioritized, scheduled, and addressed by the Architecture team. The BOF closed with discussion of the schedule for updates from the Architecture group, and when campus groups could expect updates on the Campus Bridging activities.


[1]      Rocks Clusters. Home page. Available from: http://www.rocksclusters.org/ [cited 31 Jan 2011]