



Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research

Research Infrastructure Improvement Program Inter/Intra Campus Cyber Connectivity

RII C2

May 20, 2009



Background

America COMPETES Act Section 7020 directed NSF to provide recommendations to ensure that institutions of higher learning have broadband access for academic research

- EPSCoR
- Rural
- Minority Serving



Background

- EDUCAUSE collected data on broadband access capabilities of academic institutions
- 70% responded (158)
- Participants from 50 states, Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico



Findings

- Data intensive research institutions rely on Fiber Optic or Ethernet
- 93% of EPSCoR institutions have 101 mbps connectivity of higher
 - *56 % Rural* *36% MSIs*
- <4% of MSIs have 1gbps or higher connectivity
- Cost cited as major reason for lack of access to national networks by MSIs/rural



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Cyber Connectivity Awards

- Address broadband connectivity needs within and among academic campuses
- Advance development of competitive cyber-enabled R&D
 - *S&T, Track-1, Track-2*



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Cyber Connectivity Awards (cont'd)

- Engage full diversity of resources
- Facilitate workforce
- Contribute to research and innovation
- Contribute to economic development



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Cyber Connectivity Awards (cont'd)

- Up to 2 years and \$1M to support the enhancement of inter-campus and intra-campus cyber connectivity and broadband access within an EPSCoR jurisdiction
- Facilitate synergy among NSF EPSCoR RII activities research



RII C2 Program Elements

- Cyber-enabled research and education
- Diversity Plan
- Workforce Development
- Outreach and Communication
- Integration
- Evaluation and Assessment
- Management



RII C2 Program Elements

- Project Description – 15 pages maximum
- Standard Grants
- No Required Cost Share
- Solicitation Target Date – 06/15/09
- Proposal Due – 09/15/09
- ARRA Reporting Requirements



Infrastructure

The enabling apparatus of
science and engineering

Which, in turn, facilitates
economic development



EPSCoR Investment Tools for Capacity Building

- **Research Infrastructure Improvement Awards (RII)**
 - **Cyber Connectivity (C2)**: Up to 2 years and \$1M to support the enhancement of inter-campus and intra-campus cyber connectivity and broadband access within an EPSCoR jurisdiction.