Abstract: Measuring Impact

Perspectives on Science Gateway Success

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ABSTRACT

Science gateways, virtual labs, research platforms, virtual research environments and other online resources have existed for decades. The importance of these interfaces is reflected by continuing investments in them throughout the world. Programs such as CANARIE's research platforms [1], Nectar's virtual labs [2], the National Science Foundation's Science Gateways Community Institute [3] and the European Union's virtual research environments [4] all represent a significant investment of research funding to further these cost-effective tools that enable research.

These interfaces vary widely. They come from many disciplines, serve many purposes and take many forms. What all gateways have in common, however, is the need demonstrate success. In this session we will preview a submission to Gateways 2019 that will outline the many different measures of impact as observed by clients of the Science Gateways Community Institute during the first 2.5 years of operation. Projects (and associated authors) on the Gateways 2019 submission that will be featured in this lightning talk include: Ultrascan [5], the Interactive Parallelization Tool [6], SeedMe [7], CyNeuro [8], University of South Dakota Science Gateway [9], OpenTopography [10], CIPRES [11], QUBES [12], Ike Wai Gatway [13], CitSci.org [14], CyberGIS [15], CINERGI [16], COSMIC^2 [17], SimCCS [18] and Hydroshare [19].

A lightning talk at IWSG will provide an opportunity to solicit feedback from international attendees on these measures, while also collecting additional ideas. If the Gateways 2019 paper is accepted, IWSG contributors will be invited to join as co-authors on an expanded special journal issue survey paper that collects examples of impact measurements internationally. Such a paper could spark ideas for other gateway developers, who will perhaps consider or combine existing metrics or developing new but related ideas inspired by this survey.

Keywords—science gateways; virtual labs; research platforms; virtual research environments; impact measurements

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