Overview of the Great Plains Network

Gregory Ernest Monaco

Director for Research

Outline

- **History**
- **Organization**
- **Mission**
- **Goals**
- **Current Activities**
- **Future…**

History

- **Initial meeting in June, 1996**
  - **The vision of a group of far-sighted scholars**
  - **Predates Internet2**
- **NSF Grant Awarded, 1997**
  - **In support of Earth Systems Science**
  - **To implement an advanced services network**
  - **With support for advanced networking**
  - **Which would facilitate collaboration**
- **Installation of Network, 1998**
  - **Connected to Abilene**

Organization

Membership

- **Arkansas**
- **Kansas**
- **Missouri**
- **Nebraska**
- **North Dakota**
- **Oklahoma**
- **South Dakota**

Staff

- **Jerry Niebaum,** Executive Director
- **Kristen Klaver,** Special Project & SEGP Coordinator
- **Greg Monaco,** Director for Research

Great Plains Network is

- **A consortium**
- **A community of researchers and educators connected by a high-speed network**
- **14% of the United States (7 of 50 states)**
- **25% of NSF EPSCoR States (6 of 23)**
- **About 10% of Internet2 Member Institutions (19 of 202)**

Mission

Improve quality of life by improving quality and quantity of research, education and information access:

- **Coordinate development and use of robust communications services in support of collaborative research and education;**
- **Sustain and expand the member community via professional and technological development;**
- **Leverage resources in the common interest.**

Goals

- **Network Infrastructure & Operational Support**
- **Coordination, Education, Technical Training**
- **Network Utilization**
- **Representation**
- **Review of Progress**

Current Activites (1)

- **Network Infrastructure**
  - **Pursuing an OC48 backbone which will enhance service in 4 to 5 states and potentially reach new areas**
- **Coordination, Education…**
  - **Workshops (HPC, ESS, CL)**
  - **Technical Training Meetings**
  - **Annual Meeting (February, 2004)**

Current Activites (2)

- **Utilization**
  - **Inventory of Resources**
  - **Technical Advisory/Special Interest Groups**
  - **SEGP initiatives**
  - **Nanotechnology**
  - **Computational Linguistics**
- **Representation**
  - **Quilt, Leveraging Resources**
  - **National/International Events**

http://www.greatplains.net

http://research.greatplains.net

greg@greatplains.net

kklaver@ou.edu