

Two Top Maryland Universities Join Forces to Build High-Speed Computer Network for Computational Science

COLLEGE PARK, MD (November 29, 2011) – Strengthening the state of Maryland’s position on the leading edge of science and technology, the University of Maryland and Johns Hopkins University have been awarded a grant of nearly \$1.2 million from the National Science Foundation (NSF) that will be used to build a high-speed computer network at Hopkins.

According to NSF, more than \$960,000 was awarded to Johns Hopkins to establish a 100 Gigabit per second (100 Gbps) network to be housed in North Baltimore in support of data intensive scientific research at the university.

Part of this transformative project involves connecting Hopkins to Internet2 through the Mid-Atlantic Crossroads (MAX) advanced network. The University of Maryland is one of the founding institutions of MAX, and the university was awarded more than \$220,000 to upgrade the equipment at MAX to provide Hopkins with connectivity to Internet2.

“The NSF funding will allow Hopkins’ multiple connections to be aggregated into a single 100 Gbps outgoing path to MAX and beyond – to the TeraGrid, Internet2, and other national resources supporting the research and education community,” said Maryland’s principal investigator on the grant, Dr. Abdella Battou, Interim Executive Director of MAX and Faculty Research Assistant, Office of Information Technology, University of Maryland.

About Mid-Atlantic Crossroads

MAX, or Mid-Atlantic Crossroads, is a GigaPoP organization founded by the University of Maryland, Georgetown University, George Washington University, and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech). A leader in facilitating education and research, MAX supports ultra-high bandwidth and high-performance data transfer and provides advanced network services that enable its members to successfully fulfill their organizational missions. For more information about the Mid-Atlantic Crossroads, please visit www.maxgigapop.net.

About the University of Maryland

The University of Maryland is the state’s flagship university and one of the nation’s preeminent public research universities. Ranked No. 17 among public universities by U.S. News & World Report, it has 30 academic programs in the U.S. News Top 10 and 71 in the Top 25. The Institute of Higher Education (Jiao Tong University, Shanghai), which ranks the world’s top universities based on research, puts Maryland at No. 38 in the world and No. 13 among U.S. public universities. The university has produced six Nobel laureates, seven Pulitzer Prize winners, more than 40 members of the national academies and scores of Fulbright scholars. The university is recognized for its diversity, with underrepresented students comprising one-third of the student population. For more information about the University of Maryland, visit www.umd.edu.

Media Contact: Phyllis Dickerson Johnson, Director of Communications, Office of Information Technology, University of Maryland, 301.405.4491, phyllis@umd.edu

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