

MURPA Seminar Series 2009

Seminar 1: *Benefiting Society through Information Technology: Why Changes in Education are Needed*

Date and time: 12 March 2009 from 10:00 am- 11am

Location: Building: 26, Room: 135, (via HD interactive video) Clayton Campus to UCSD

Presenter: Dr Peter Arzberger, Chair, Pacific Rim Application and Grid Middleware Assembly

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Abstract:

Information technology, including computing and networking, continues to influence our lives and our science, both what we do and how we do it. Challenges at the frontiers of science depend ever more on information technology, and on interdisciplinary, international groups working together. Starting from this perspective, we explore several examples from biomedical research and environmental science that require different aspects of the information technology community's expertise. We use these examples to provide a model for the conduct of future research and education.



We will draw examples from activities from around the Pacific Rim, such as Pacific Rim Application and Grid Middleware Assembly (PRAGMA), which builds sustained collaborations and advances the use of grid technologies via applications; the National Biomedical Computation Resource (NBCR), an infrastructure resource for the biomedical community; and the Global Lake Ecological Observatory Network (GLEON). In addition we will introduce three programs aimed at educating the next generation of researchers in international research apprenticeships: PRIME, PRIUS, and MURPA. Along the way, we will exemplify technology trends and illustrate them with other examples.

We will conclude with one specific personal challenge of the speaker. We hope that the material we present will challenge the information community in its future directions, to the benefit of society.

Bio

Peter Arzberger is Chair of PRAGMA, (www.pragma-grid.net) a founding member of the Steering Committee of another international activity, GLEON (<http://www.gleon.org>), and the Global Lake Ecological Observatory Network. In addition he is Director of the National Biomedical Computation Resources (<http://nbcrl.net>), an NIH National Center for Research Resource award. He is also Chair of the National Advisory Board to the U.S. Long Term Ecological Research (LTER) network. Arzberger is the former Executive Director of the National Partnership for Advanced Computational Infrastructure (NPACI) and a former Program Officer at the United States National Science Foundation in Computational Biology.

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