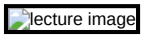

Special Guest Lectures

High Performance Computing at the University of Arkansas

Amy W. Apon
Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science and Computer Engineering, University of Arkansas

Johnston Hall 338
August 11, 2006 - 10:30 am

Abstract:
This talk will describe the status of high performance computing and networking at the University of Arkansas, how we got to where we are, the current challenges, collaborative opportunities, and our goals over the next year. The University of Arkansas is relatively new to the supercomputing and grid computing communities. In August, 2004, an MRI grant was awarded to the University from the National Science Foundation that targets a broad spectrum of NSF-funded research and research training activities. A significant match by the University and gift from Dell Corporation has allowed the University to purchase the Red Diamond supercomputer. Red Diamond ranked 379 on the Top 500 list in June, 2005, and is the first supercomputer in Arkansas as listed on the Top 500 list. Complementary with computational and storage resources, the Governor of Arkansas has funded during this next fiscal year a major initiative in optical networking for the state, entitled the Arkansas Research and Education Optical Network (AREON). The University has a growing community of computational researchers, growing participation in regional and national grid initiatives, including SURAGrid and the Open Science Grid, and growing collaboration that builds on these resources and brings together researchers and educators in a cooperative use of computational and networking resources.

Speaker's Bio:
Amy Apon received a B.S.Ed. in Mathematics Education, an M.A. in Mathematics, and an M.S. in Computer Science from the University of Missouri - Columbia. She received a Ph.D. in Computer Science from Vanderbilt University in 1994. Dr. Apon is an Associate Professor in the Department of Computer Science and Computer Engineering at the University of Arkansas. She is the PI on an MRI grant from the National Science Foundation and has been the PI on other grants from the National Science Foundation, other government funding agencies, and industry. In her role as PI of the MRI grant she has been directing high performance computing activites at the University of Arkansas over the last two years. Her current research projects include two NSF-funded projects in the areas of middleware for cluster computing and teaching grid computing to undergraduate computer science students. She has a currently-funded project from Acxiom Corporation in the area of performance modeling and capacity planning of grid-based computer systems. Dr. Apon is the author or co-author of over 50 scholarly publications.

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