

**NSF Campus Cyberinfrastructure and Cybersecurity for  
Cyberinfrastructure Innovation PI Workshop**

September 24 – 25, 2019

Minneapolis, MN

**Session:** Speed Learning and Small Table Discussions

**Topic:** Challenges of a Lesser-Resourced Institution

**Day and Time:** 2:15 - 3:45pm, Tues. Sep. 24

**Leads:** Jorge Crichigno, Channon Visscher

The session “Challenges of a Lesser-Resourced Institution” had the participation of three groups. Each group had 15 minutes to discuss issues observed in small institutions. The session started at 2:25 pm and ended at 3:30 pm.

The summary is provided below.

First group: 2:25 – 2:45
<p><b>Initial question:</b> What are the challenges related to CI infrastructure facing small institutions?</p> <p><b>Answers:</b></p> <p>Understanding Science DMZ</p> <p>Many IT professionals don't know about Science DMZ and are reluctant when presented with the concept. Workforce, growing expertise, attracting expertise are needed.</p> <p>Lead (larger) institutions are essential to support smaller institutions.</p> <p>As a workforce solution, remote expertise was mentioned more than once.</p> <p>Staff resources are not available. IT staff shared by multiple institutions is an encouraging idea.</p> <p>Small institutions seem to have funding needs for CI engineers.</p> <p>Small institutions are not aware of resources available (advanced CI, funding opportunities, etc.).</p> <p>NSF CC* PI meeting is very useful for awareness. The question is how to bring awareness of CC* to institutions don't know about it.</p>
Second group: 2:50 – 3:10
<p><b>Initial question:</b> What are the challenges related to CI infrastructure facing small institutions?</p> <p><b>Answers:</b></p> <p>How to extent opportunities? Ideas include webinar, workshops, dissemination of opportunities.</p> <p>Small institutions need CI but they are not able to support it.</p>

Shared services (to support multiple institutions) might help (shared sponsored office; shared IT staff).

Asking IT department to support additional CI they don't know much about (e.g., Science DMZ) is challenging.

Having CI staff supporting multiple institutions might work.

Lack of knowledge in advanced CI (Science DMZs).

Some small institutions rely on undergraduate students. Grantees do not know if supplemental funds (REU) are available.

Third group: 3:10 – 3:30

**Initial question:** What are the challenges related to CI infrastructure facing small institutions?

**Answers:**

Small institutions don't have enough resources (staff, training, onboarding).

Having regional partnership is essential.

Help people understand the importance of CI and capabilities.

Workforce, hiring CI professionals with the right skills is difficult.

# SMALL INSTITUTION CI CHALLENGES

WORKFORCE <sup>RESEARCH</sup> <sup>ENTERPRISE</sup>

FUNDING

\* LEAD INSTITUTION

REMOTE/ STAFFING  
SHARED

COLLABORATION

(AWARENESS)

STAFFING / WORKFORCE  
GRANTS ADMIN  
SHARED SERVICES  
SPONSORED PROGRAMS  
LEAD INSTITUTION  
KNOWLEDGE GAPS  
DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES

INFRASTRUCTURE  
TRAINING - FACULTY /  
ONBOARDING SCIENCE  
\* REGIONAL  
PRIORITIES "IS THIS  
FOR US?"  
KNOWLEDGE GAP FOCUS  
TIME