

## **Report by the Open Science Grid Council Subcommittee to address the Consortium At-Large VO Representation**

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The committee has organized six teleconferences within a recent three-month period. Through these teleconferences, a major strategy is to interview the VOs that are currently not represented on the OSG Council. In particular, we focused on those VOs that do not conduct high-energy physics, and were able to successfully interview the following VOs: CIGI, CompBioGrid, DOSAR, GUGrid, NWICG, NYSGrid. Two VOs: nanoHub and SBGrid responded to our invitations, but could not make any of the teleconferences. Other non-high-energy-physics VOs did not respond to our email invitations for participation in the teleconferences. The committee designed the following five interview questions:

- Who is involved in your VO?
- What is the focus of your VO?
- How long has your VO been around?
- What would make your VO's participation in OSG more effective?
- What communications with the OSG (and OSG Council) does your VO anticipate to need?

Detailed responses by the interviewed VOs' representatives are summarized in individual teleconference minutes which can be found on the following TWiki page: <https://twiki.grid.iu.edu/bin/view/Council/ALVOR-May-30-2008>.

Based on analyzing these responses, the committee makes the following two primary recommendations.

1. **Policies and Mechanisms.** The OSG Council Bylaws need to address necessary procedures to replace and add new council seats. In particular, currently for representing at-large VOs, two rotation seats are recommended with one seat to serve two-year term and the other to serve either one-year or two-year term. This has not happened to date. We do recommend that this be implemented as soon as possible.

Furthermore, more flexible policies on replacing and/or adding new council seats in general would allow not only for adaptive representations for at-large VOs that are dynamically changing as they are often small and new, but also for assuring appropriate demographic compositions of the Council to adequately sustain potential growth and changes of respective VO communities.

2. **Institute a Self-Organized At-large Consortium VO Forum at the Council level.** This Forum is recommended to self-organize at-large VOs so that their voices can be heard timely and their representations on the Council can be effective. At least one face-to-face meeting is recommended to take place each year, which may be scheduled right before or to be part of the annual OSG all-hands meeting. The Forum serves the two-fold purpose of electing the Council representatives of at-large VOs and facilitating the sharing of operational and scientific experiences.