Global Lambda Integrated Facility Governance Working Group
15th Meeting, 25 September 2017
Holme Building, University of Sydney Camperdown Campus, Sydney, Australia

Attendees

Name	Organisation	Country
Maxine Brown	University of Illinois Chicago	United States
Jim Chen	StarLight/Northwestern Uni.	United States
Buseung Cho	KISTI/KRLight	South Korea
Lars Fischer	NORDUnet	-
Jim Ghadbane (Co-Chair) – remote	CANARIE	Canada
John Hess	CENIC/Pacific Wave	United States
Alexander van den Hil	SURFnet	The Netherlands
Jonah Keough	PNWGP/Pacific Wave	United States
Andrew Lee	Indiana University	United States
Joe Mambretti	iCAIR/StarLight/Northwestern Uni.	United States
Kevin Meynell (Secretary)	GLIF Secretariat	-
David Reese	CENIC/Pacific Wave	United States
Thomas Tam	CANARIE	Canada
Rodney Wilson	Ciena	-
Linda Winkler	StarLight	United States

Apologies were received from:

Eric Boyd	University of Michigan	United States
Réne Buch	NORDUnet	-
Dale Finkelson	Internet2	United States
Cees de Laat	University of Amsterdam	The Netherlands
David Wilde	AARNet	Australia

1. Welcome

Jim Ghadbane welcomed everyone to the meeting, and mentioned that David Wilde had been planning to co-chair but his flight had unfortunately been delayed.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting held on 30 September 2017 were approved. These are available at http://www.glif.is/meetings/2016/gov/minutes.pdf.

3. Actions from last meeting

14.1 GLIF Secretariat to send out sponsorship requests for 2016.
    Done

14.2 Jim Ghadbane to investigate alternative hosting options for the GLIF Secretariat.
Done – would be reported on during the meeting

14.3 Kevin Meynell to constitute Programme Committee and arrange a date for the first meeting.
Done

14.4 GLIF Programme Committee to discuss dates and venue for GLIF 2017 before the end of 2016.
Done – it had been agreed GLIF 2017 would be held on 25-27 September 2017 in Sydney, Australia.

4. Update on GLIF Secretariat: January 2016-July 2017

Kevin Meynell reported on the work undertaken by the GLIF Secretariat over the past 18 months (see http://www.glif.is/meetings/2017/gov/secretariat-report.pdf).

The Secretariat continued to undertake the routine tasks listed at http://www.glif.is/sponsors/sponsoring.html, and had organised Annual Global LambdaGrid Workshops in Miami and Sydney, as well as two additional meetings in Arlington (at Internet2 Global Summit) and Prague (at TNC 2016). In addition, discussions had been held with potential hosts for the 18th Annual Global LambdaGrid Workshop.

20 organisations had provided sponsorship amounting to €64,833 in 2016, and they were thanked for their support. Expenditure in 2016 had amounted to €60,903, which was €3,143 more than budgeted for as the GÉANT Association had charged for a tax audit and some personnel costs. However, they had provided €6,000 in sponsorship, which meant the result was a surplus of €3,930 that bolstered the reserves to €78,250.

The budget agreed for 2017 had been €58,660 and 20 organisations had committed sponsorship amounting to €65,787, of which €48,887 had already been collected. There was still an outstanding payment from ANSP from 2016, whilst amounts still need to be collected or cashed from six sponsors for 2017. This was partly down to changing contacts at both the sponsor and GÉANT Association ends, and in a couple of cases paperwork that still need to complete. However, it was anticipated the money would be collected by the end of the year.

RNP had returned as a sponsor of GLIF for 2017, whilst the GÉANT Association had decided to contribute €6,000 for 2016 and 2017 each. Unfortunately, Calit2 no longer had a funding programme to support GLIF, whilst ANSP also had not committed sponsorship for 2017.

€24,270 had been expended up until the end of July, with a projection of €57,112 by the end of 2017. This would create a surplus in the order of €7,675, taking the reserves to €85,925.

Due to a ruling from the Netherlands tax authorities where the GÉANT Association is incorporated, they are required to charge 21% VAT on the costs of operating the GLIF Secretariat. The figures for 2016 and the 2017 therefore include VAT.

The accounts presented for 2016 were the audited figures, although the GÉANT Association no longer published detailed accounts which previously used to show a breakdown of the GLIF activities.

5. Budget for GLIF Secretariat 2018

Kevin Meynell presented the proposed budget for the GLIF Secretariat for 2018 (see http://www.glif.is/meetings/2017/gov/secretariat-report.pdf). The initial proposal was for a budget of €64,130 including 21% VAT, and an additional amount of €8,000 to cover accounting and legal costs that were anticipated in 2018.

The proposed sponsorship tiers had been circulated (see Appendix), and if all current sponsors agreed to stay at the same levels for 2018, this would amount to 68 units and would yield a total revenue of €68,000 if the unit fee was kept at €1,000. The proposed budget should therefore be covered.

It had previously been agreed to keep the level of the reserves somewhere between €70 and 90K in future, so keeping the same fee still kept the reserves within parameters. Some additional budget items were also anticipated to be requested during the workshop, so agreed to keep the unit fee at €1,000.

The unit fee was agreed at €1,000, and the GLIF Secretariat was asked to send out sponsorship requests for 2018 on this basis.

Action 15.1 – GLIF Secretariat to send out sponsorship requests for 2018.

During the subsequent discussion on the GLIF Map an additional amount of €10,000 for producing a new map was approved, and the possible development of a database of connection information was also agreed in principle.

There were further discussions during the following days about redesigning the GLIF corporate image and website, for which estimates will need to be obtained.

Action 15.2 – GLIF Secretariat to investigate costs of redesigning the GLIF corporate image and website, and development of database for connection information.

With these items in mind, it was agreed to increase the budget by €10,000 to €64,130, with the possibility to also add the redesign and database costs if acceptable quotes are received.

6. GLIF Secretariat Hosting

Jim Ghadbane reported that at the last meeting he had been asked to investigate alternative hosting options for the GLIF Secretariat. This had been discussed between himself, Nancy Carter (CFO of CANARIE) and the GLIF Secretariat, and Kevin Meynell had produced a report and circulated this to the sponsors before the meeting

Kevin presented the report and summarised the three options had been identified for the Governance Working Group to consider:

1) Incorporate GLIF as a company in a tax-efficient jurisdiction.
2) Another organisation hosts the GLIF Secretariat – the Asia-Pacific Internet Association (APIA) & CANARIE are the favoured options.
3) The GÉANT Association continues to host GLIF, accepting this will increase costs

Following discussion amongst the participants at the meeting, it was felt that the overheads and complications of an incorporated structure were not necessary for GLIF, that incorporating in most tax-efficient jurisdictions was politically unacceptable or even impossible for some public organisations, and this option did not offer any particular advantages.

The favoured option was for the GLIF Secretariat to be hosted by CANARIE, although Nancy Carter would need to investigate the possible tax implications in more depth. APIA was also a known organisation and could be a possible fallback solution as that already hosted similar activities and had established tax exemption agreements.

Action 15.3 – CANARIE to investigate tax implications of hosting the GLIF Secretariat.

It was pointed out there had recently been a change of management at the GÉANT Association, and with the new interim CEO being seconded from a GLIF sponsoring organisation, it may be now be more favourable towards continuing to host the GLIF Secretariat.

Action 15.4 – GLIF Secretariat to discuss hosting options with new CEO at the GÉANT Association.

7. GLIF Map

Maxine Brown was pleased to announce that the new edition of the GLIF map was now completed and would be published shortly. Maps for the whole world were available in 2K, 4K, 8K, 16K and 32K JPEG and PNG versions, whilst regional maps were available in 2K, 4K and 8K JPEG and PNG versions. These would be available from
https://www.glif.is/publications/maps/

The last version of the map had been published in 2011, but it had proved a time consuming task to collect information about exchange points and connections. Maxine suggested that a more collaborative way of contributing this information might be developed, whereby GLIF participants could maintain their details in an online database. This would allow the map to be updated more frequently in future.

Kevin Meynell said much of this information had been maintained in the GLIF Wiki, but had been running on a platform that was no longer supported by the GÉANT Association. He would investigate how Maxine's information could best be made available in a way that could easily be updated by GOLE and lightpath operators, although it would also need some proactivity from them to keep their information maintained. In addition, there had been an idea to use the Network Description Language developed by the University of Amsterdam to help automate this process, although this had not progressed into service.

Action 15.5 – GLIF Secretariat to investigate the best method to publish the GOLE and lightpath information in a maintainable manner.

Maxine asked whether EUR 10K could be added to GLIF budget for the following year with a view to producing a new version of the map during 2018. This was agreed.

8.   Programme Committee

Kevin Meynell reported that a Programme Committee had been formally constituted for GLIF 2017, although leading figures in the GLIF community had always been consulted about the workshop programme previously. The PC included the Working Group Chairs, along with Dale Finkelson (Internet2), Alexander van den Hil (SURFnet), Cees de Laat (University of Amsterdam), Joe Mambretti (Northwestern University) and Rodney Wilson (Ciena).

Jim said the PC had produced a good programme for 2017, and thanked the members for their contributions. With this in mind, he asked whether all were willing to continue, and whether anyone else was interested to join.

Cees de Laat was not present and Kevin said he would follow up with him, but all the other members indicated they were willing to serve for another year. Jonah Keough (Pacific Northwest GigaPoP) also volunteered to join.

The GLIF Secretariat was asked to arrange a date for the first meeting, which would probably be in early January.

Action 15.6 – GLIF Secretariat arrange a date for the first meeting of the GLIF 2018 Programme Committee.

9.   Global LambdaGrid Workshop 2018

Kevin Meynell reported that in accordance with the informal rotation policy, it was the turn of Europe to host the GLIF workshop in 2018. He had therefore solicited an offer from NORDUnet to co-locate the 18th Global LambdGrid Workshop (GLIF 2018) with the NORDUnet Conference 2018 on 20-21 September 2018 in Helsingør (Elsinore), Denmark.

Helsingør is located 45 kms north of Copenhagen and is a one hour direct train journey from Copenhagen Airport, a major international hub. Sweden is also a short ferry ride away across the Øresund.

It was agreed that the 18th Global LambdGrid Workshop would co-located with the NORDnet Conference 2018, and the GLIF Secretariat was asked to coordinate arrangements with NORDnet.

Action 15.7 – GLIF Secretariat to coordinate arrangements for GLIF 2018 with NORDUnet.

10. Any other business

Jim Ghadbane said that GLIF would like to extend its thanks to AARNet and the University of Sydney for hosting the 17th Global LambdaGrid Workshop.

Open Actions

15.1 GLIF Secretariat to send out sponsorship requests for 2018.

15.2 GLIF Secretariat to investigate costs of redesigning the GLIF corporate image and website, and development of database for connection information.

15.3 CANARIE to investigate tax implications of hosting the GLIF Secretariat.

15.4 GLIF Secretariat to discuss hosting options with new CEO at the GÉANT Association.

15.5 GLIF Secretariat to investigate the best method to publish the GOLE and lightpath information in a maintainable manner.

15.6 GLIF Secretariat arrange a date for the first meeting of the GLIF 2018 Programme Committee.

15.7 GLIF Secretariat to coordinate arrangements for GLIF 2018 with NORDUnet.

Global Lambda Integrated Facility
Proposed Sponsor Tiers 2018

Sponsor	Tier	Units	Contributions (EUR) 2017	Contributions (EUR) 2018
AARNet	2	4	4,000	4,000
AMPATH	1*	2	2,000	2,000
ANSP	1*	2	0	2,000
CANARIE	2	4	4,000	4,000
CENIC	3	2	2,000	2,000
CERN	2	4	4,000	4,000
CESNET	2	4	4,000	4,000
GÉANT Association	1	6	6,000	6,000
i2CAT	4	1	1,000	1,000
iCAIR	4	1	1,000	1,000
Internet2	1	6	6,000	6,000
KAUST	3	2	0	2,000
KISTI	1	6	6,000	6,000
NORDUnet	1	6	6,000	6,000
PNWGP	3	2	2,000	2,000
PSNC	2	4	4,000	4,000
REANNZ	1	1	1,000	1,000
RNP	1*	2	2,000	2,000
SURFnet	1	6	6,000	6,000
TWAREN	3	2	2,000	2,000
UIC	4	1	1,000	1,000
Total (unit fee = EUR 1,000)		**68**	**64,000**	**68,000**

* AMPATH, ANSP and RNP share a Tier 1 contribution