

To: Martin Ringle, President, NWACC
From: Steve Smith, NWACC Network Task Force Chair
Date: May 9, 2007

RE: Network Task Force recommendation on acceptance of Network Study

The NWACC Network Task Force has reviewed the Advanced Network Engineering Feasibility Study conducted for the Northwest Academic Computing Consortium by the Pacific Northwest Gigapop. We met via conference call with the principle investigator and the PNWGP staff involved with the study. As a result of that meeting, two minor changes were requested. There were also three questions to be addressed by the PNWGP, not part of the work to be completed by the principle investigator.

The task force members considered the study with reference to the Memorandum of Agreement between NWACC and the PNWGP of 7 April 2006.

All task force members agree the study be accepted and full payment made to the PNWGP once the final version has been received with the two minor changes requested (1. change the Reed entry per the conference call on 7 May 2007 on the *Table of NWACC Comparison of Existing Services* and 2. Number the recommendations in the Opportunities and Recommendations section of the narrative) and the PNWGP has submitted written responses to the three questions listed in the April MOA under the heading "*Questions to be answered by the PNWGP in conjunction with the Feasibility Study.*" I have requested from Victor Braud, principle investigator, the two minor changes and delivery of all final study documents to you and myself. I have requested from the PNWGP written responses to the three questions to be sent to both of us.

Once these two requests are complete, the study and all related materials should be distributed to the entire board under a cover memo from the task force (to be written).

I should add that several of the task force members expressed continuing questions and concerns on the information, or lack thereof, in the study but all felt it was time to bring this contract to closure and engage the full board in questions raised by the study.

The task force is working on recommendations based on the study to be distributed to NWACC board members. These will be forthcoming as soon as the group can complete its deliberations. Our goal is have them distributed before the June 2007 board meeting.

This milestone represents, as the old saying goes, the end of the beginning. There is significant discussion before us now on directions to take. I want to thank the diligence of all the task force members to this point as well as the persistent work of the PNWGP and the study authors. I look forward to the next stages.

cc: NWACC Network Task Force members: Keiko Pitter; John Lawson; John Balling; Mark Gregory; Louis Fox