



Global Lambda Integrated Facility Governance Working Group
2nd Meeting, 2-3 September 2004
Nottingham, United Kingdom

The second meeting of the GLIF Working Group on Governance and Growth took place on 2-3 September 2004 in Nottingham, England at the 4th Annual Global LambdaGrid Workshop. The meeting was attended by approximately 25 persons and was chaired by Kees Neggers.

The Working Group had a long discussion about the objectives and functions of the GLIF. It was agreed that the GLIF has an internal and an external function. The external function is to make the lambdas and open optical exchanges of the GLIF participants available to researchers as an integrated global facility for use and experimentation. The internal function is to exchange information between GLIF participants, in particular on best-practice, to set up joint experiments, and in general to bring the technology further.

It was emphasised that in its external function, the GLIF is not in competition with any national research networks or their joint operational organisations; the GLIF promotes the new paradigm of lambda networking, and does not aim to set up a production-level research network infrastructure.

The GLIF is open for participation by any organisation that can offer resources (e.g., lambda connections, optical interchanges) or knowledge. The GLIF is not a membership organisation and the organisations involved should be denoted as "participants" rather than as "members".

The GLIF participants pool their resources for the collective good of their communities. A certain governance structure will be needed, but this should be extremely lightweight.

It was decided to propose to the plenary meeting to ask TERENA to provide the functions of a GLIF secretariat. Main functions of the secretariat will be to help organise the annual meetings, provide secretaries for the GLIF Working Groups and maintain the GLIF website. Internet2 and NLR, SURFnet, UKERNA, CESNET and NORDUnet agreed to jointly make available 50 kEUR, which was expected to cover the cost of the secretariat for the first year (2005). Contributions from other GLIF participants would be sought as well.