

HPC & RESEARCH COMPUTING SEMINAR AT TEXAS A&M - SAN ANTONIO

APRIL 30, 2025

ROOM:-BLH MPR 134

8:00-9:00 AM	Registration
9:00-9:15 AM	Participant introduction and their roles in research infrastructure
9:15 – 9:30 AM	Welcome and Introduction, Provost Dr. Mohamed Abdul Rahman
9:30 – 10:00 AM	Topic: Strategic Research Computing Growth, Presenter: Sharmila Pathikonda
10:00 – 10:15 AM	ARCATs project overview: Drs. Alsmadi, Chakravorty
10:15 – 10:30 AM	Break (coffee) ☕
10:30 – 11:15 AM	How A&M-SA built the HPC, infrastructure and capacity Mr. Bill Griffenberg (CIO) and Mr. Jonathan Cooper (CSO)
11:15 – 12:00 PM	Strategic Planning for Sustainability – Panel Topics: Potential funding avenues, Industry partnerships, sustainability beyond NSF funding Panelists: Dr Golla, Dr. Lehman, Dr. Ravi
12:00 – 1:00 PM	Lunch

Afternoon Sessions: Defining Research Needs and Collaborative Roadmap	
1:00 – 1:30 PM	Topic: Texas A&M San Antonio Campus Computing Planning Presenter: Amy Apon, NSF
1:30 PM – 2:30 PM	Research Computing needs and use cases – panel discussion Panelists: Faculty and researchers from A&M-SA colleges, Topics: Machine Learning Research & Applications, Discussion on current computational research challenges at TAMUSA, Identifying domain-specific requirements for HPC & ML, Exploring interdisciplinary collaboration opportunities. (Moderators: Dr Lehman, Dr Alsmadi)
2:30 – 2:45 PM	Break - networking
2:45 – 3:30 PM	Strategic Planning: Infrastructure Participants split into working groups based on themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HPC Infrastructure Expansion: • Data Governance in Research Computing Each group outlines key priorities, challenges, and action items for future development (Moderator: Mr. Nassos Galiopoulos, UTSA)
3:30 – 3:45 PM	Break - Coffee
3:45 – 4:30 PM	NSF CC* Planning Grant Roadmap & Next Steps Invited speakers from grants office. Topics Include: Review of workshop findings and integration into a strategic roadmap. Discussion on white paper development for NSF CC* submission. Assigning task forces and follow-up actions. Campus CI plan (Moderator: Dr. Jeff Prevost, UTSA)
4:30 – 5:00 PM	Closing Remarks Summary of key insights and commitments, and Informal networking

Speaker's Profile

1. DR. MOHAMED ABDELRAHMAN

Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

"Welcome and Introduction about the University research team and university research infrastructure."

DR. ABDELRAHMAN JOINED A&M-SAN ANTONIO FROM COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY PUEBLO, WHERE HE SERVED AS PROVOST AND EXECUTIVE VP OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS. HE PREVIOUSLY HELD LEADERSHIP ROLES AT ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE, AND TENNESSEE TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY, AND WAS A FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF QATAR. HE HOLDS A PH.D. IN NUCLEAR SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING AND AN M.S. IN MEASUREMENTS & CONTROLS ENGINEERING FROM IDAHO STATE UNIVERSITY, AND AN M.S. IN ENGINEERING PHYSICS AND B.S. IN ELECTRONICS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS ENGINEERING FROM CAIRO UNIVERSITY. WITH 25+ YEARS OF EXPERIENCE, HE'S KNOWN FOR INTEGRATING RESEARCH, EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING, AND CURRICULUM INNOVATION.

2. DR. SHARMILA PATHIKONDA

Associate Vice Chancellor for Research, Director of Research Development

Strategic Research Computing Growth

DR. PATHIKONDA SERVES AT THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM, SUPPORTING 11 UNIVERSITIES AND 8 AGENCIES. SHE LEADS MAJOR INITIATIVES, FOSTERS COLLABORATION, AND ENHANCES RESEARCH ACROSS THE SYSTEM. WITH A STRONG STEM BACKGROUND, SHE PROVIDES SCIENTIFIC SUPPORT FOR FEDERAL PROPOSALS IN CANCER BIOLOGY, CLIMATE SCIENCE, ENERGY INNOVATION, AND NUCLEAR ENGINEERING. HER SUCCESS IS DRIVEN BY A PASSION FOR SCIENCE AND STRONG QUANTITATIVE TRAINING.

3. MR. BILL GRIFFENBERG

Chief Information Officer

How Texas A&M-SA Built Research Computing Infrastructure and Capacity

GRIFFENBERG, WHO JOINED IN JANUARY, WAS PREVIOUSLY CIO FOR FLORENCE COUNTY, SC. AT A&M-SA, HE GUIDES IT SERVICES TO ALIGN WITH UNIVERSITY GOALS. A U.S. AIR FORCE VETERAN, HE BEGAN IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND PURSUED FURTHER EDUCATION AT JEFFERSON DAVIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE, EARNING HIS B.S. IN 2006 AND M.S. IN 2008 FROM UNIVERSITY OF PHOENIX. HE HAS HELD CIO ROLES AT FLORENCE-DARLINGTON TECHNICAL COLLEGE AND MONTANA DEPT. OF JUSTICE.

4. DR. AMY APON

Program Director, National Science Foundation

Texas A&M-San Antonio Campus Computing Planning

DR. APON'S WORK SPANS PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION OF PARALLEL/DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS AND CLOUD ARCHITECTURES. HER INTERESTS INCLUDE CLOUD COMPUTING, PERFORMANCE MODELING, DATA-INTENSIVE COMPUTING, EMERGING PARALLEL ARCHITECTURES, AND THE IMPACT OF HIGH-PERFORMANCE COMPUTING ON RESEARCH COMPETITIVENESS.

5. MR. NASSOS GALIPOULOS

Chief Technology Officer and Deputy CIO

Campus Research Computing Infrastructure Expansion: Data Governance in Research Computing

MR. GALIPOULOS DRIVES SYSTEMS SUPPORTING RESEARCH, ACADEMICS, AND ADMINISTRATION. WITH 20+ YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN ENTERPRISE SERVICE MANAGEMENT AND PERFORMANCE ANALYTICS, HE LEADS UTSA'S DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION. PREVIOUSLY, HE SERVED AT UNT SYSTEM. A FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENT, HE HOLDS A BBA AND AN MBA IN IT FROM UNT.

6. DR. JEFF PREVOST

Associate Professor, Cloud Tech Endowed Professor, Graduate Advisor – M.S. AI

Planning Grant Roadmap & Next Steps

DR. PREVOST EARNED A B.S. IN ECONOMICS (TEXAS A&M, 1990), B.S. IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING (UTSA, 2009), M.S. (2012), AND PH.D. IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING (2013, UTSA). HE JOINED UTSA AS ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF RESEARCH AND CO-FOUNDED THE OPEN CLOUD INSTITUTE. HE HAS HELD TECHNICAL LEADERSHIP ROLES IN PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS, AND CONTINUES TO CONSULT IN COMPLEX SYSTEMS AND CLOUD COMPUTING.