# ARCATS workshop
# Designing a Roadmap for Advanced Research Computing at Texas A&M University–San Antonio

Sep 18, 2025, STEM 256

## Tentative Agenda

| Time | Sessions |
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| 8:00 - 9:00 am | ***Registration*** |
| 9:00 - 9:15 am | ***Welcome and Introduction***<br>***Presenter:*** Dr. Mohamed Abdelrahman, Provost, Texas A&M University-San Antonio |
| 9:15 – 9:45 am | ***NSF frameworks and programs to support campus-level research computing***<br>***Speaker:*** Dr. Kevin L Thompson: Program Director, National Science Foundation (NSF)<br><br>Dr. Kevin L Thompson will share insights into NSF's cyberinfrastructure initiatives. He will highlight cyberinfrastructure resources that are available to researchers and educators nationally<br><br>Zoom |
| 9:45 – 10:15 am | ***Keynote: Advancing AI/ML research across The Texas A&M University System.***<br>***Speaker:*** Dr. Erin "Brendan" Roark, Associate Vice President for Research (Centers & Institutes) at Texas A&M University, College Station, TX<br><br>Dr. Brendan Roark will discuss strategies for defining, organizing, and financially sustaining core research facilities, drawing on his leadership in advancing shared infrastructure initiatives. He will also discuss plans to support The Texas A&M University System researchers on the upcoming NVIDIA DGX SuperPOD with 760 GPUs. |
| 10:15 – 10:30 am | ***Break - Coffee*** |
| 10:30 – 11:20 am | ***Panel: Research Computing needs and use cases***<br>***Moderator:*** Dr. Dhruva Chakravorty, Texas A&M University<br>***Participants:***<br>● Dr. Utpal Smart<br>● Dr. Burak Aksoylu<br>● Dr. Davida Smyth<br>● Dr. Gongbo Liang<br>● Dr. Yulun Han<br>● Dr. Ashley Teufel<br>***Topics:*** Machine Learning Research & Applications, discussion on current computational research challenges at TAMUSA, identifying domain-specific requirements for HPC & ML, and exploring opportunities for collaborations. |
| 11:30 – 12:00 pm | ***Texas A&M-San Antonio's Plans to develop Campus infrastructure and capacity***<br>***Presenters****:* Mr. Bill Griffenberg (Chief Information Officer) and Mr. Jonathan Cooper (Chief Information Security Officer)<br><br>Mr. Griffenberg will share the vision for improving campus information technology (IT) infrastructure to support academic and research programs. |
| 12:00 – 1:00 pm | ***Lunch*** |

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| | *STEM RM- 258* |
| 1:00 – 2:15 pm | ***Panel: Research computing needs and use-cases for Genomics Research***<br>***Moderator:*** Dr. Vijay Golla<br>***Participants:***<br>● Dr. Donna Lehman<br>● Dr. Ravindranath Duggirala<br>● Dr. Hemant Kulkarni<br>● Dr. Srinivas Mummidi<br>● Dr. Rector Arya<br>***Topics:*** Research computing needs for researchers and instructors participating in Public Health Genetics and Genomics programs at Texas A&M San Antonio |
| 2:15 – 3:00 pm | ***Strategic Planning:*** *"*Explore best practices for implementing scalable, secure, and user-focused IT systems for research and administration."<br>***Speaker****:* Mr. Nassos Galiopoulos, University of Texas San Antonio (UTSA)<br><br>With two decades of experience in IT leadership, Mr. Nassos Galiopoulos will highlight how digital transformation can underpin research computing capabilities, leveraging UTSA's strides in infrastructure modernization and learning management systems. |
| 3:00 – 3:30 pm | ***Break - Coffee*** |
| 3:30 – 4:00 pm | ***Illuminate the role of national-level HPC resources, user engagement models, and future scalability considerations.***<br>***Speaker****:* Dr. Richard Gerber, Retired Senior Science Advisor, the National Energy Research Scientific Computing Center (NERSC)<br><br>Dr. Richard Gerber, is the former Head of the HPC Department at NERSC. He will share how the Department of Energy's high-performance computing infrastructure successfully supports broad scientific communities, with lessons applicable to emerging institutional frameworks. |
| 4:10 – 4:40 pm | ***Workshop Report Writing***<br>● Summary of key insights and commitments, and Informal networking<br>● Consolidate working group outputs into a draft roadmap, assign follow-up responsibilities, and determine milestones for implementation.<br>● Convene to refine breakout outputs, finalize an integrated roadmap framework, and establish action items and timelines for advancing research computing at the university. |
| 4:50 – 5:00 pm | ***Closing Remarks***<br>***Presenter****:* Dr. Izzat Alsmadi. |

**Website:** https://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward?AWD_ID=2430335

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