



# GENI

## Exploring Networks of the Future

An introduction

GENI Project Office  
March 2010  
[www.geni.net](http://www.geni.net)



Sponsored by the National Science Foundation

- GENI is a virtual laboratory for exploring future internets at scale.
- GENI creates major opportunities to *understand, innovate, and transform* global networks and their interactions with society.
- GENI opens up new areas of research at the frontiers of network science and engineering, and increases the opportunity for significant socio-economic impact.

- GENI – Exploring future internets at scale
- How we'll use it; how we'll build it  
(Two Comic Books)
- GENI system concept
- Current status and plans: GENI Spiral 2
- How can you participate?

# Global networks are creating extremely important new challenges

## Science Issues

We cannot currently understand or predict the behavior of complex, large-scale networks



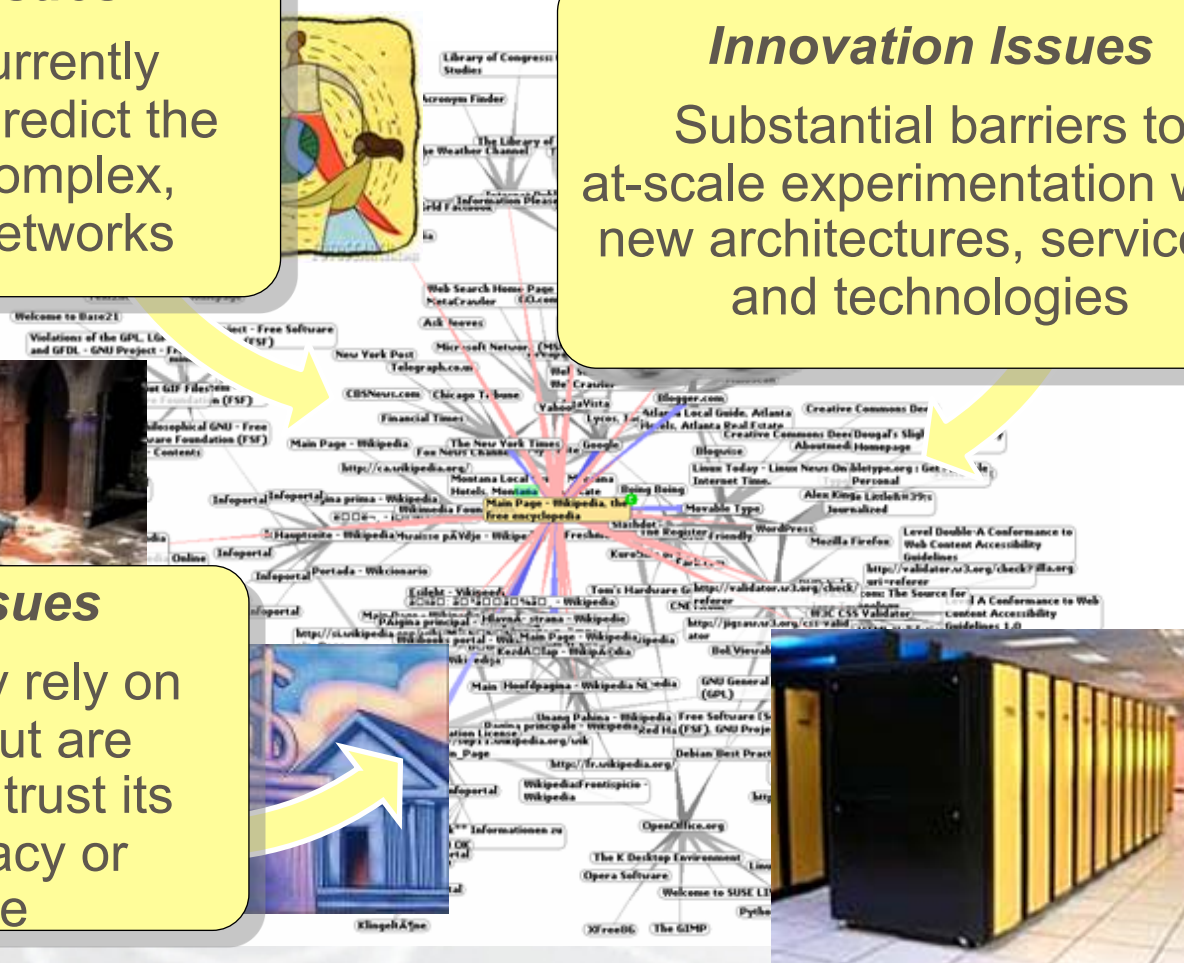
## Innovation Issues

Substantial barriers to at-scale experimentation with new architectures, services, and technologies

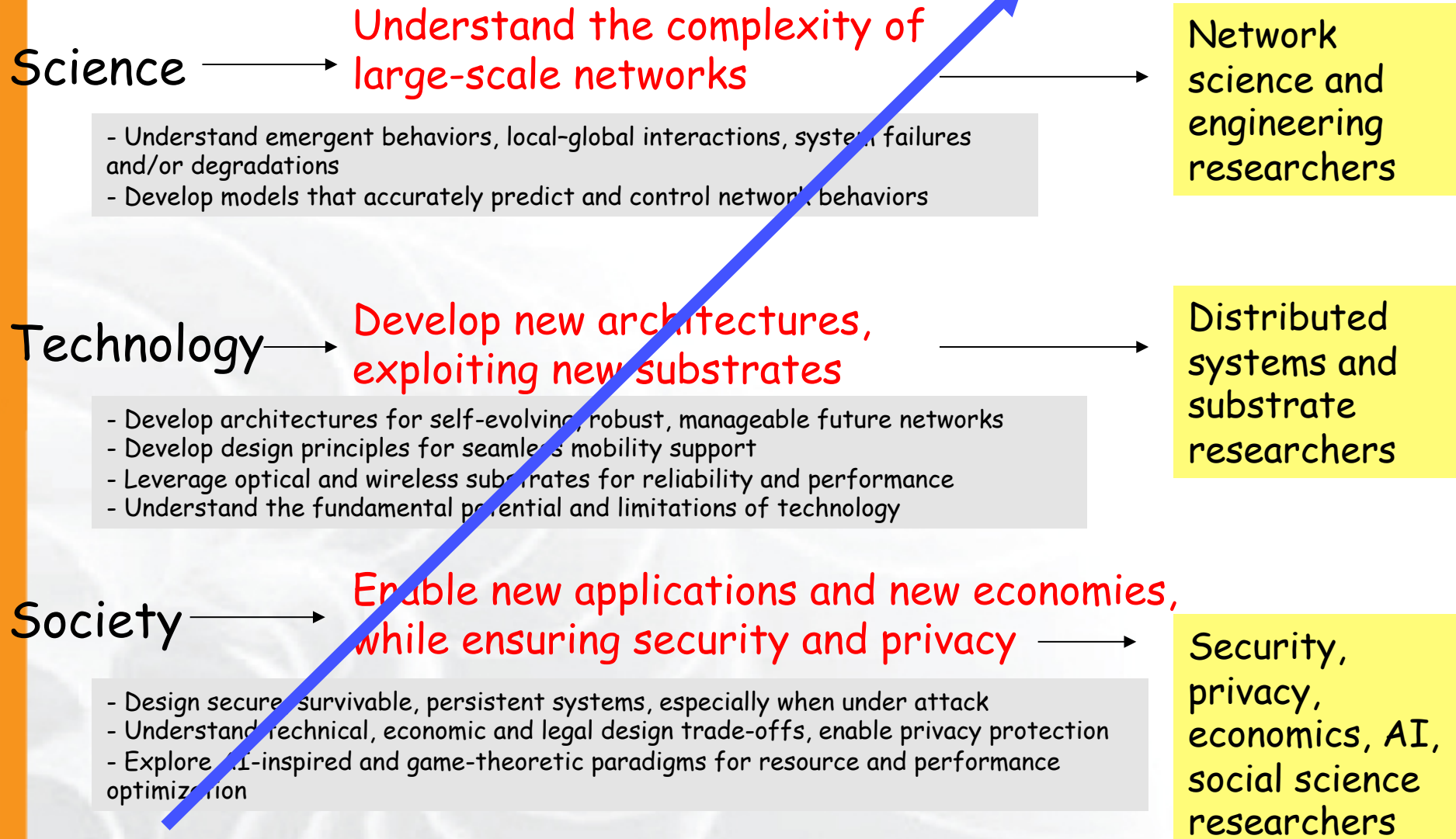


## Society Issues

We increasingly rely on the Internet but are unsure we can trust its security, privacy or resilience

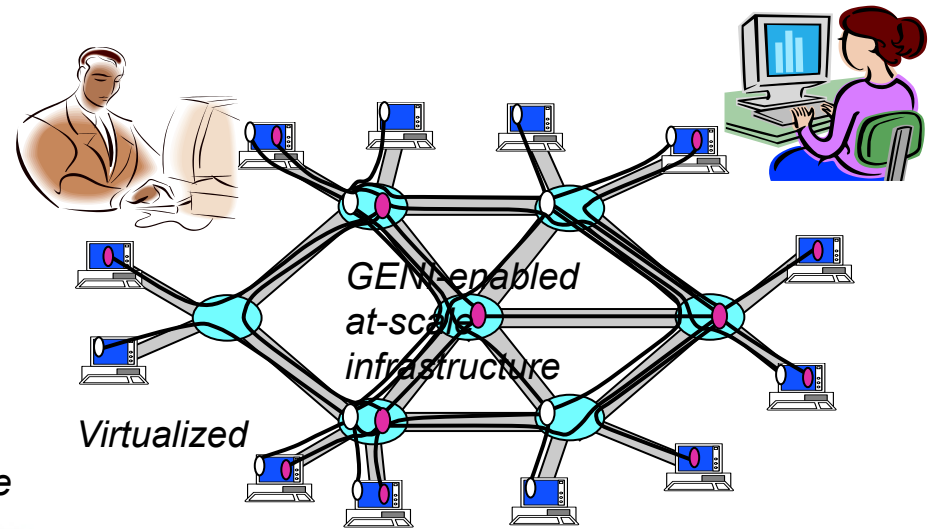
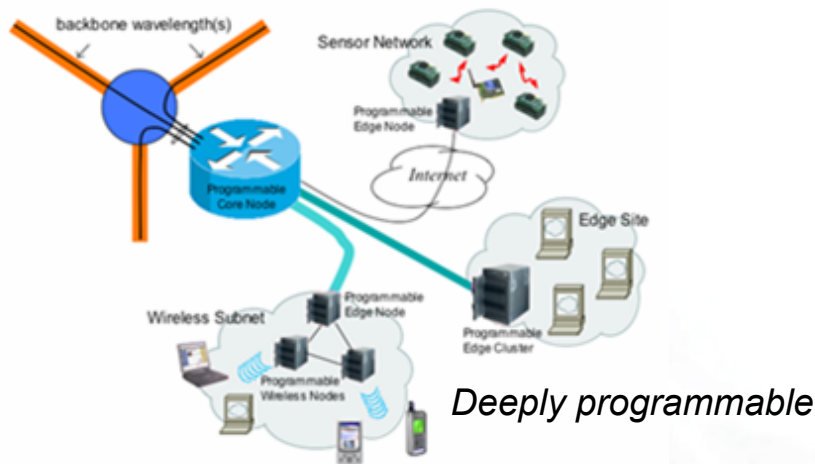




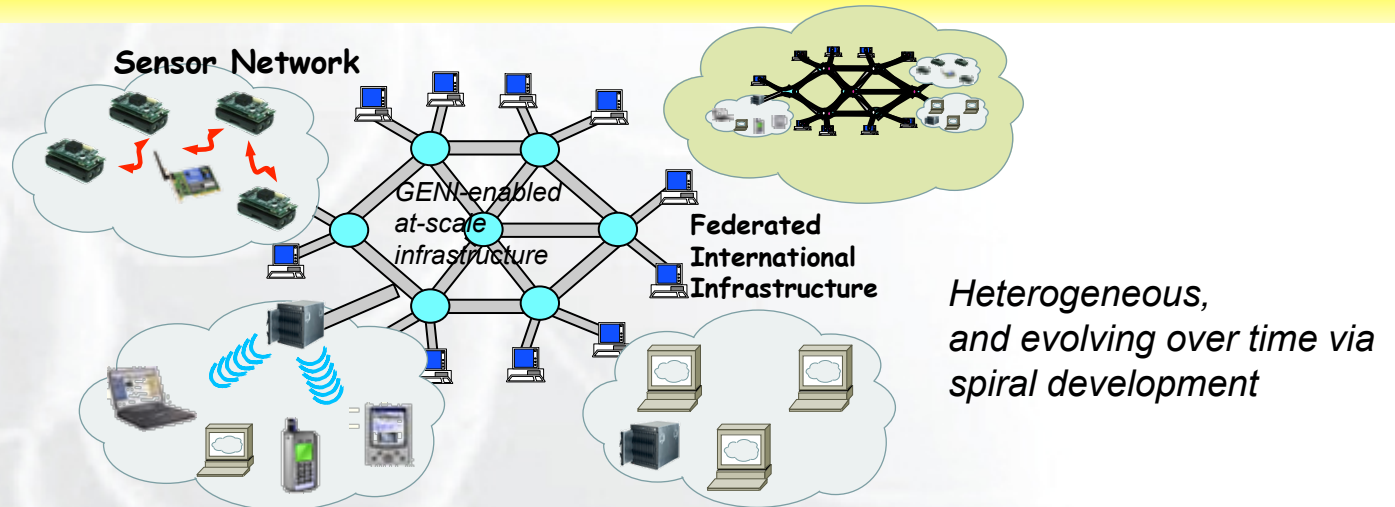


# GENI Conceptual Design

## Infrastructure to support at-scale experimentation



***Programmable & federated, with end-to-end virtualized "slices"***



- **GENI is enabling two classes of “at scale” experiments:**
  - **Controlled and repeatable** experiments, to help improve scientific understanding of complex, large-scale networks; and
  - **“In the wild” trials** of services that piggyback or connect to today’s Internet and engage large numbers of participants.
  - With instrumentation and data archival / analysis tools for both
- **How can we afford / build GENI at sufficient scale?**
  - Clearly infeasible to build research testbed “as big as the Internet”
  - Therefore we are “GENI-enabling” testbeds, commercial equipment, campuses, regional and backbone networks
  - Key strategy for building an at-scale suite of infrastructure

# Current GENI Status

GENI-enabling testbeds, campuses, and backbones









- GENI – Exploring future internets at scale
- How we'll use it; how we'll build it  
(Two Comic Books)
- GENI system concept
- Current status and plans: GENI Spiral 2
- How can you participate?

# How We'll Use GENI

Note that this is the “classics illustrated” version – a comic book!

Please read the Network Science and Engineering Research Agenda to learn all about the community's vision for the research it will enable.

Your suggestions are very much appreciated!

# A bright idea



I have a great idea! The original Internet architecture was designed to connect one computer to another – but a better architecture would be fundamentally based on PEOPLE and CONTENT!

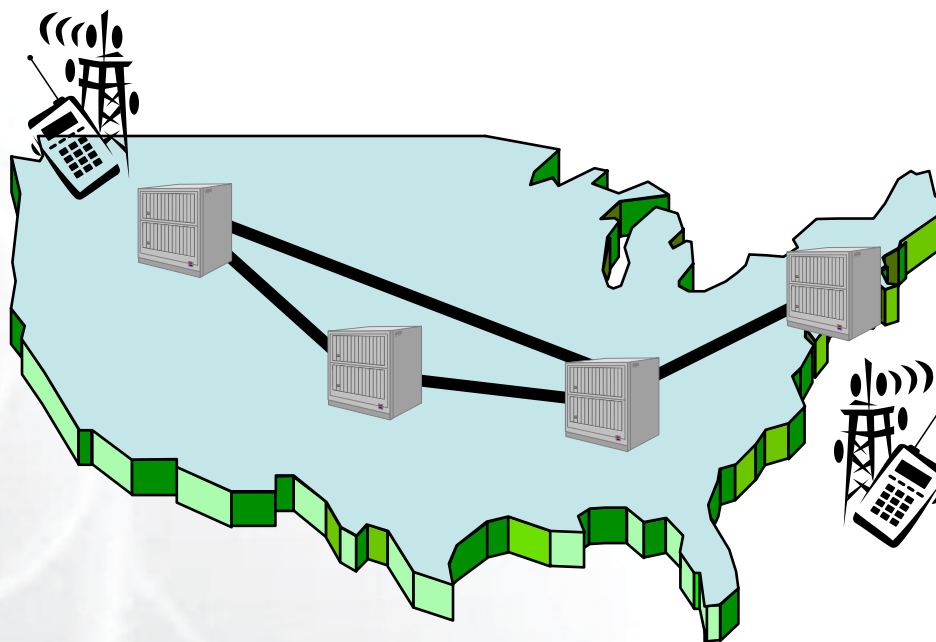
*That will never work! It won't scale!  
What about security? It's impossible  
to implement or operate! Show me!*





My new architecture worked great in the lab, so now I'm going to try a larger experiment for a few months.

And so he poured his experimental software into clusters of CPUs and disks, bulk data transfer devices ('routers'), and wireless access devices throughout the GENI suite, and started taking measurements . . .



He uses a modest slice of GENI, sharing its infrastructure with many other concurrent experiments.

# It turns into a really good idea

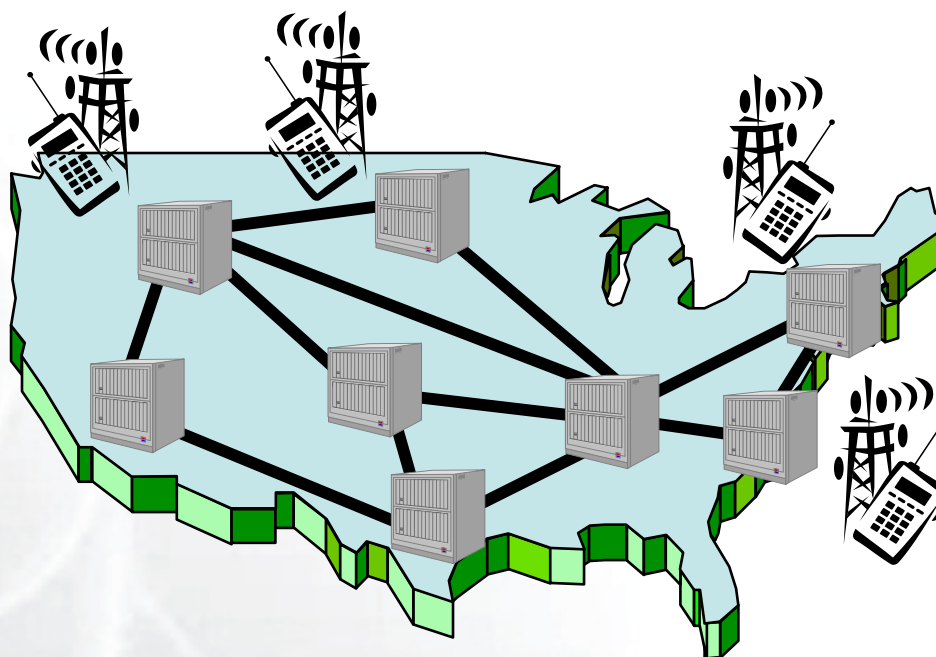


Boy did I learn a lot! I've published papers, the architecture has evolved in major ways, and I'm even attracting real users!

*Location-based social networks are really cool!*



His experiment grew larger and continued to evolve as more and more real users opted in . . .



His slice of GENI keeps growing, but GENI is still running many other concurrent experiments.



# Experiment turns into reality



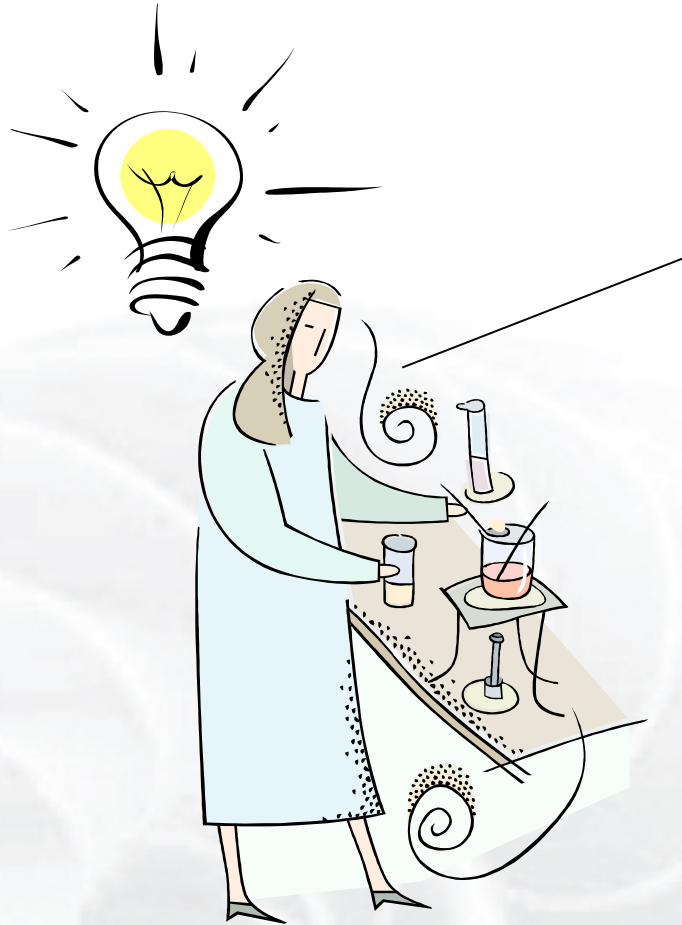
My experiment was a real success, and my architecture turned out to be mostly compatible with today's Internet after all – so I'm taking it off GENI and spinning it out as a real company.



*I always said it was a good idea, but way too conservative.*



## Meanwhile . . .



I have a great idea! If the Internet were augmented with a scalable control plane and realtime measurement tools, it could be 100x as reliable as it is today . . . !

And I have a great concept for incorporating live sensor feeds into our daily lives !



If **you** have a great idea, check out the **NSF CISE Network Science and Engineering** program.

- GENI is meant to enable . . .
  - At-scale experiments, which may or may not be compatible with today's Internet
  - Long-running, realistic experiments with enough instrumentation to provide real insights and data
  - 'Opt in' for real users into long-running experiments
  - Large-scale growth for successful experiments, so good ideas can be shaken down at scale
- A reminder . . .
  - GENI itself is not an experiment !
  - GENI is a suite of infrastructure on which experiments run

**GENI creates a huge opportunity for ambitious research!**

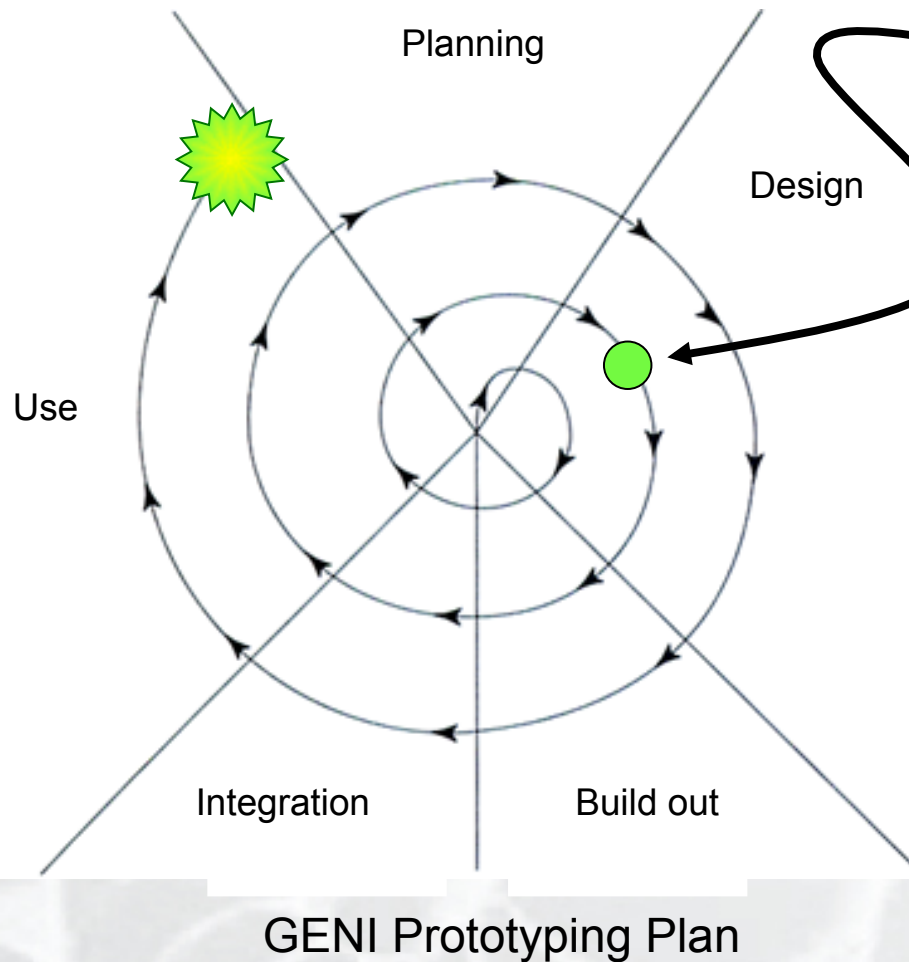
# How We'll Build GENI

Note that this is the “classics illustrated” version – a comic book!

Please read the GENI System Overview and GENI Spiral 1 Overview  
for detailed planning information.

# Spiral Development

GENI grows through a well-structured, adaptive process



## GENI Spiral 2

Early experiments, meso-scale build, interoperable control frameworks, ongoing integration, system designs for security and instrumentation, definition of identity management plans.

## Envisioned **ultimate goal**

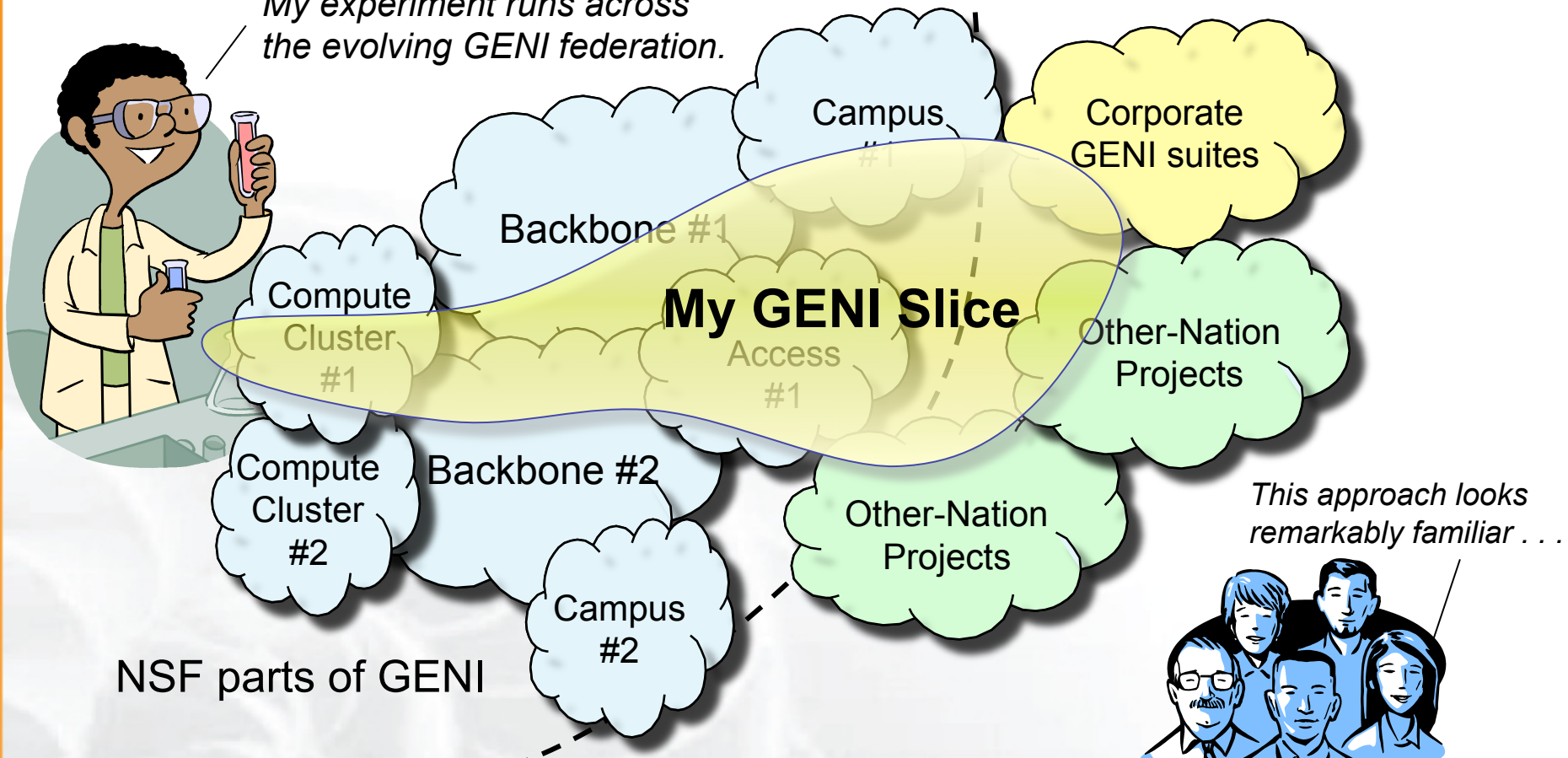
Example: Planning Group's desired GENI suite, probably trimmed some ways and expanded others. Incorporates large-scale distributed computing resources, high-speed backbone nodes, nationwide optical networks, wireless & sensor nets, etc.

- **Spiral Development Process**  
Re-evaluate goals and technologies yearly by a systematic process, decide what to prototype and build next.



GENI grows by “GENI-enabling” heterogeneous infrastructure

*My experiment runs across the evolving GENI federation.*

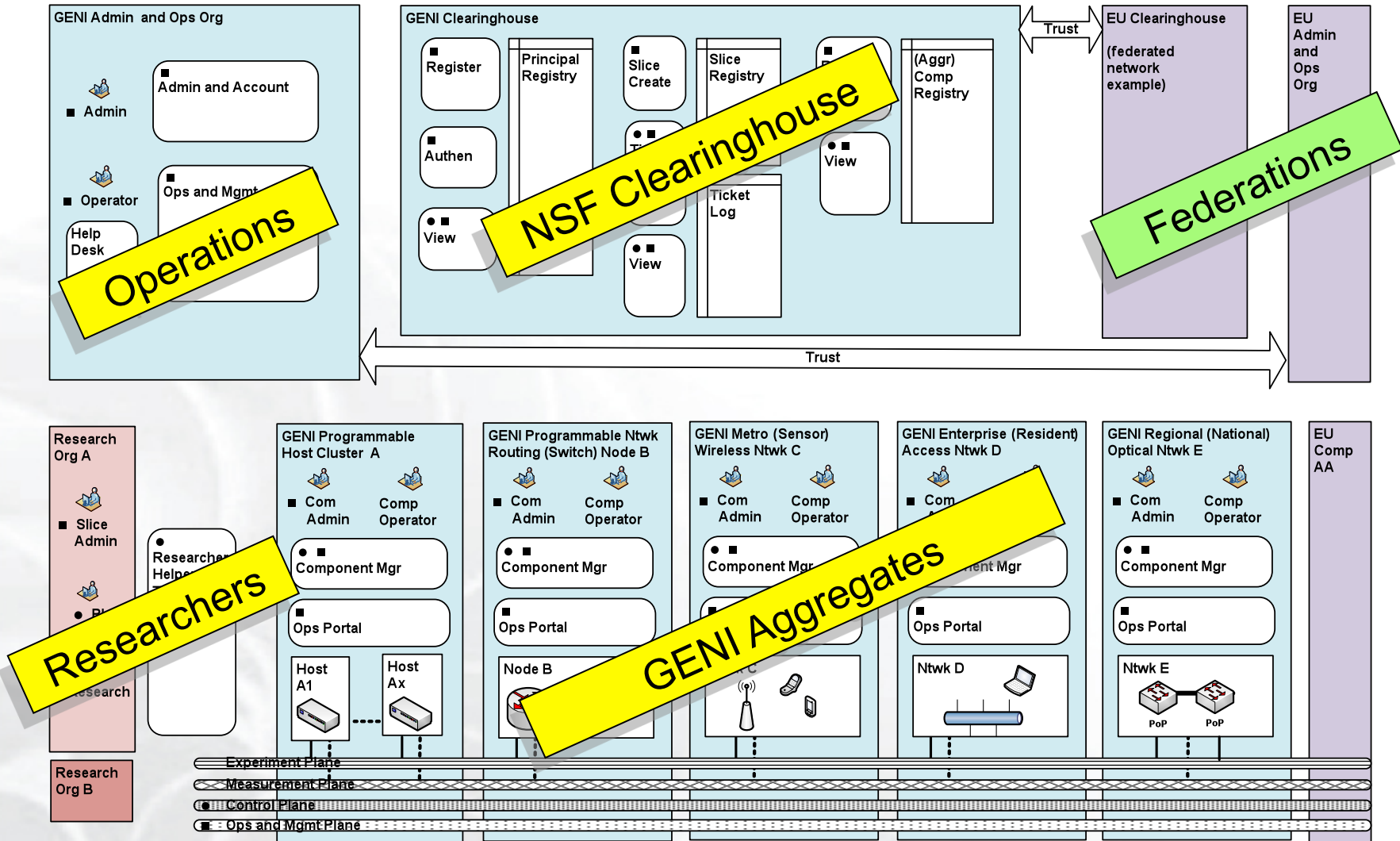


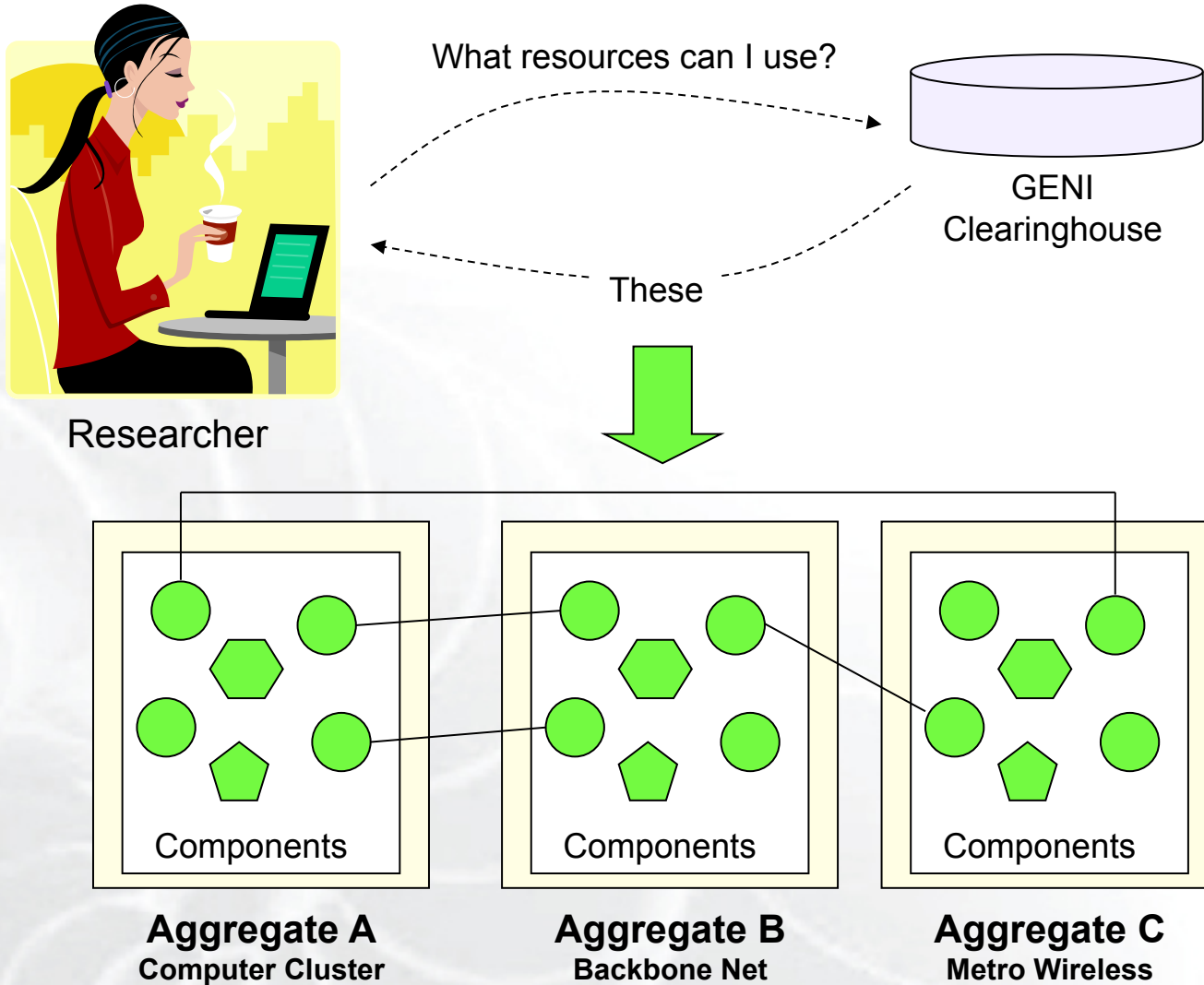
NSF parts of GENI

Goals: avoid technology “lock in,” add new technologies as they mature, and potentially grow quickly by incorporating existing infrastructure into the overall “GENI ecosystem”

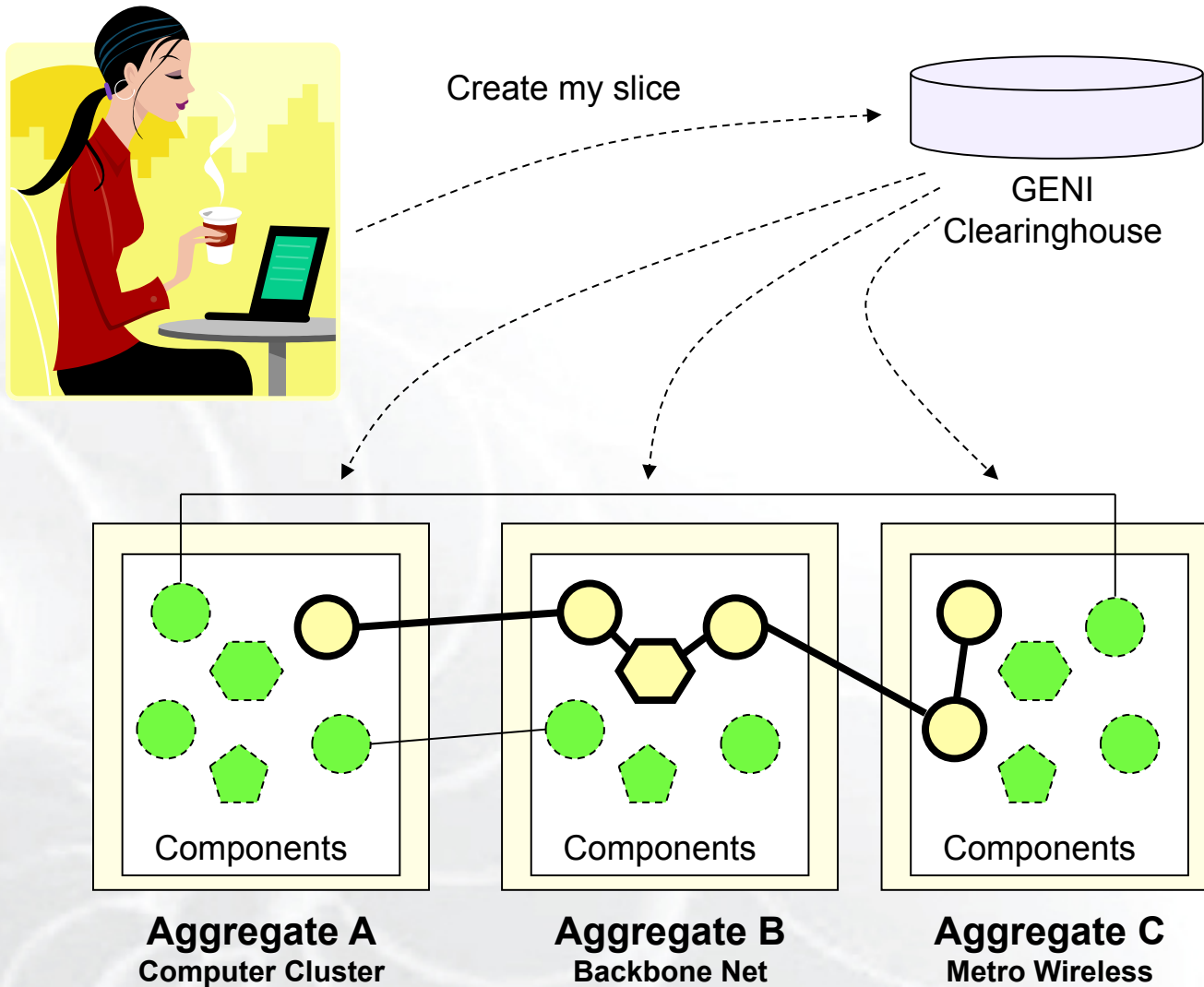
- GENI – Exploring future internets at scale
- How we'll use it; how we'll build it  
(Two Comic Books)
- GENI system concept
- Current status and plans: GENI Spiral 2
- How can you participate?

# GENI System Diagram (simplified)



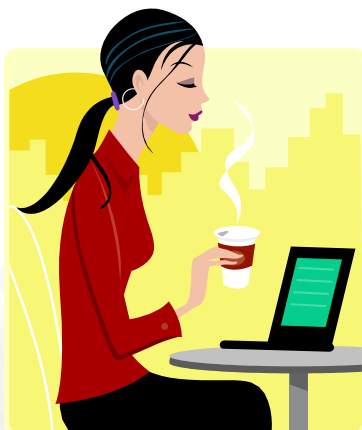


Clearinghouse checks credentials & enforces policy  
Aggregates allocate resources & create topologies

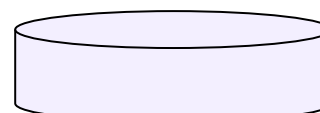




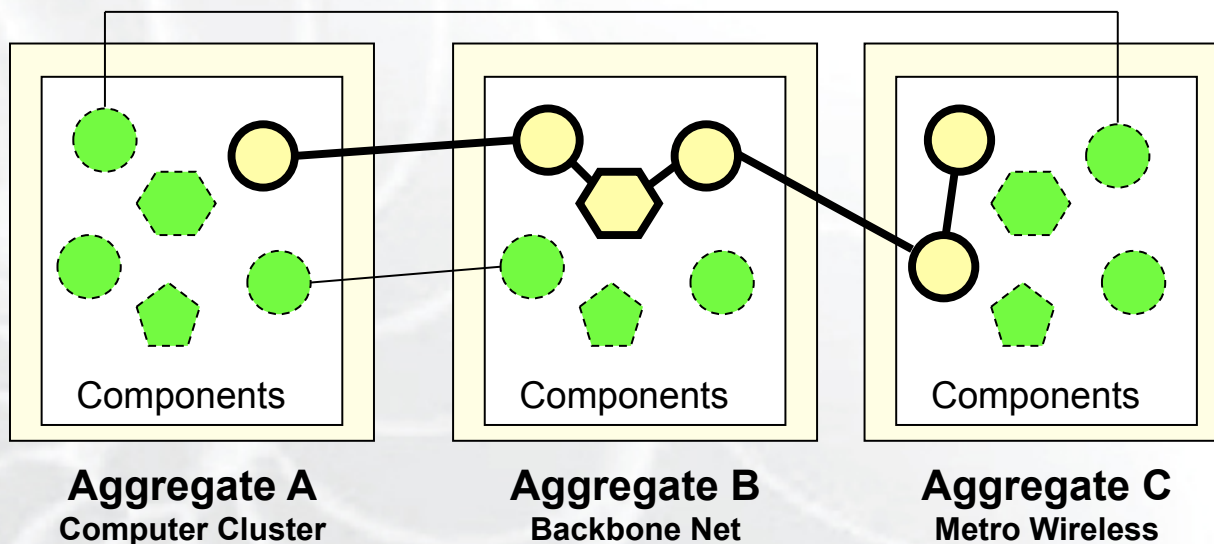
Researcher loads software, debugs, collects measurements



Experiment – Install my software,  
debug, collect data, retry, etc.

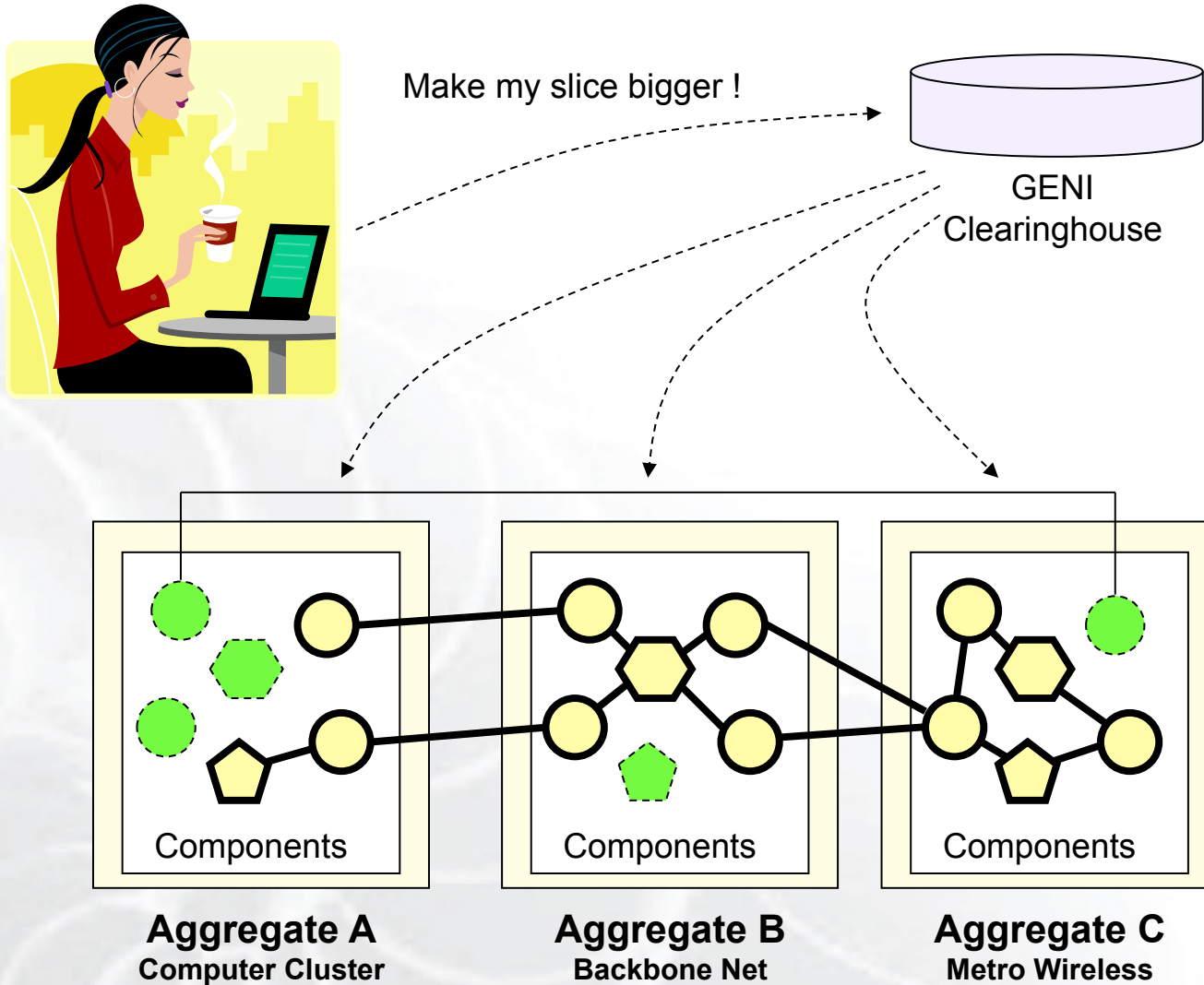


GENI  
Clearinghouse



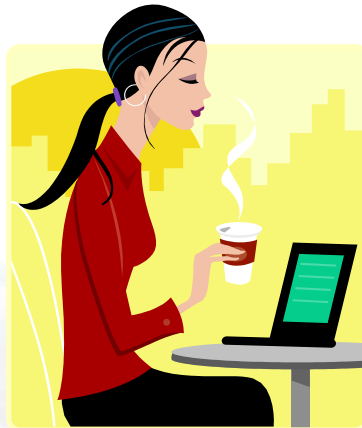
# Slice growth & revision

Allows successful, long-running experiments to grow larger

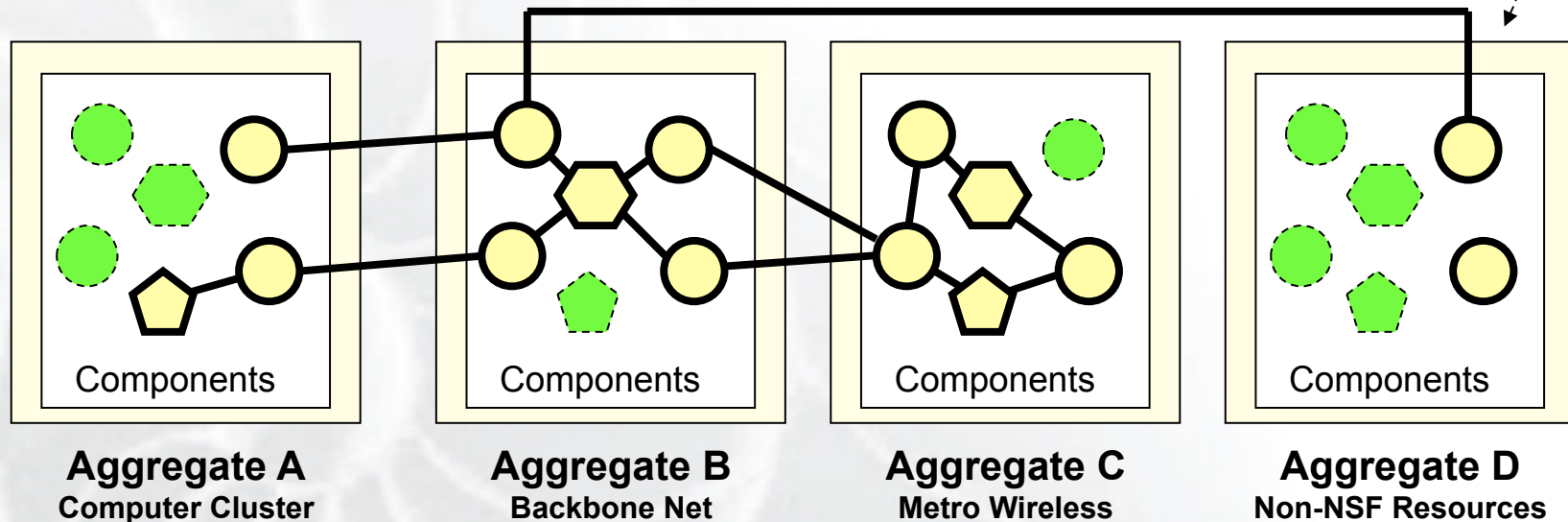
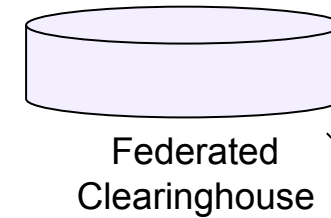
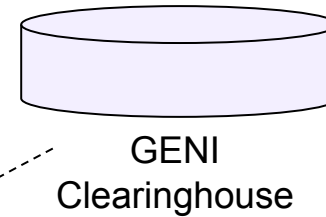


# Federation of Clearinghouses

Growth path to international, semi-private, and commercial GENIs

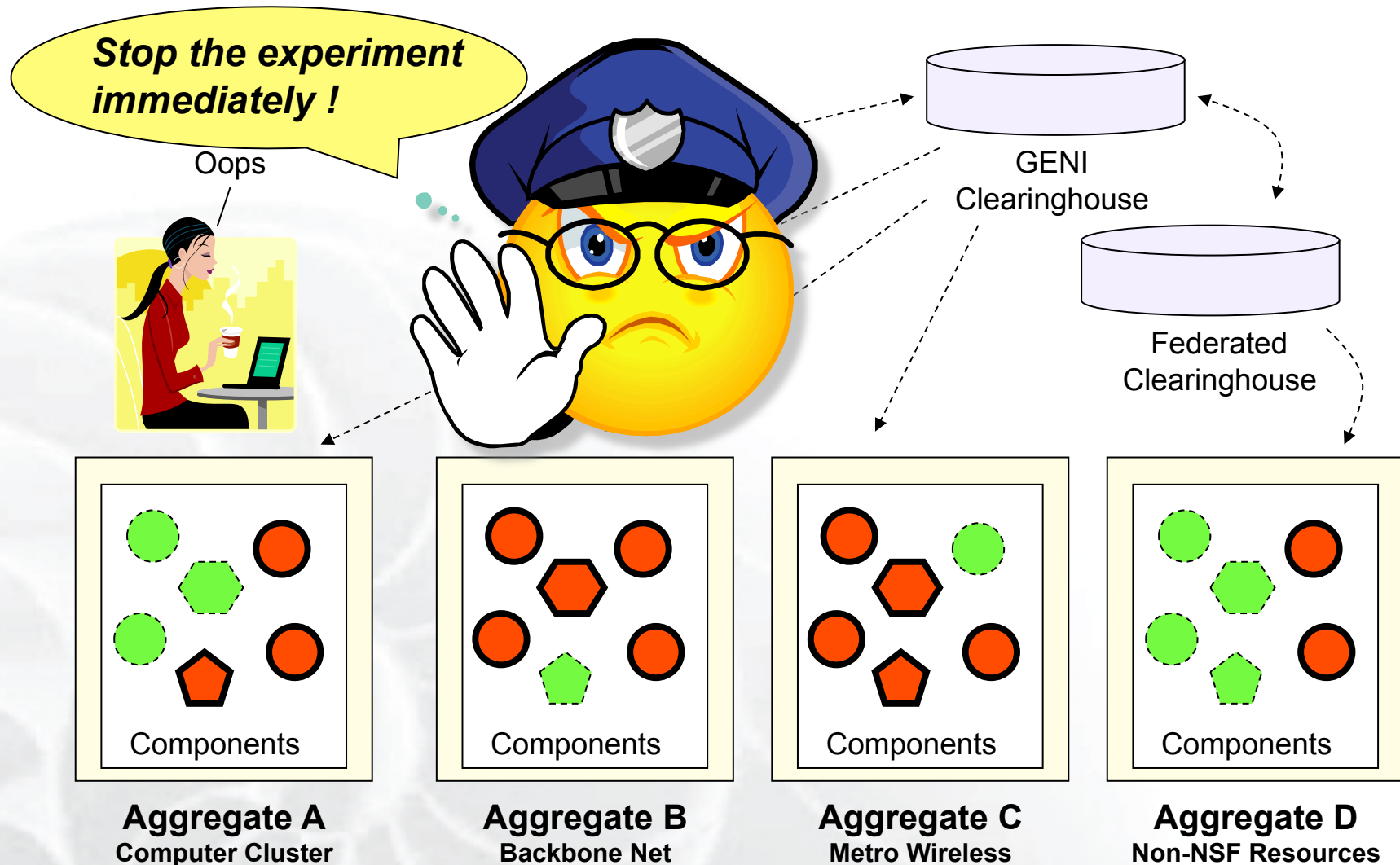


Make my slice even bigger !



# Operations & Management

Always present in background for usual reasons  
Will need an 'emergency shutdown' mechanism



- GENI – Exploring future internets at scale
- How we'll use it; how we'll build it  
(Two Comic Books)
- GENI system concept
- **Current status and plans: GENI Spiral 2**
- How can you participate?



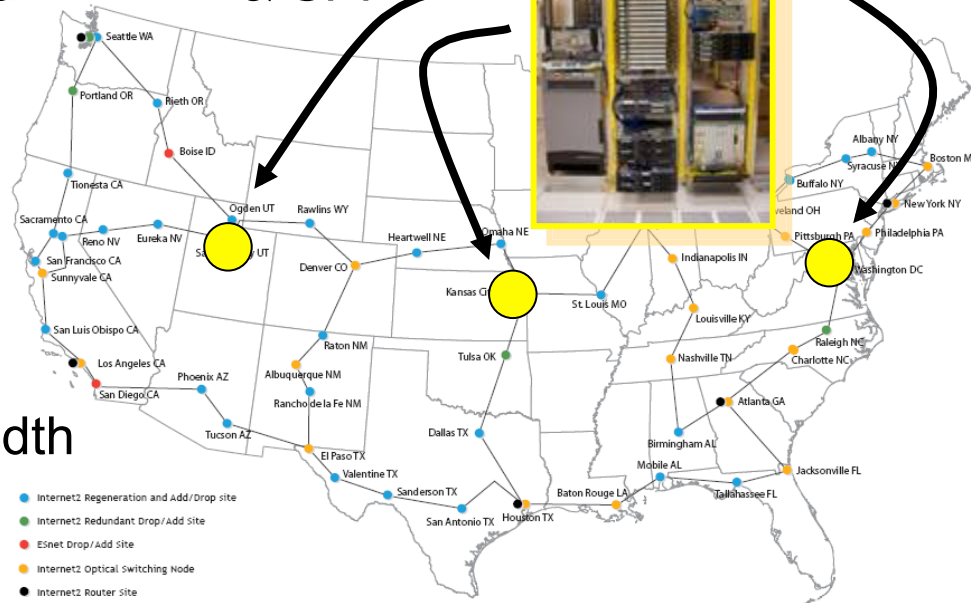




**National LambdaRail**  
Up to 30 Gbps nondedicated bandwidth

**Internet2**  
10 Gbps dedicated bandwidth

ProtoGENI  
& SPP



- Internet2 Regeneration and Add/Drop site
- Internet2 Redundant Drop/Add Site
- ESnet Drop/Add Site
- Internet2 Optical Switching Node
- Internet2 Router site

**40 Gbps capacity for GENI prototyping on two national footprints  
to provide Layer 2 Ethernet VLANs as slices (IP or non-IP)**

# Building the GENI Meso-scale Prototype

## Current plans for locations & equipment

### OpenFlow

- Stanford
- U Washington
- Wisconsin
- Indiana
- Rutgers
- Princeton
- Clemson
- Georgia Tech

### WiMAX

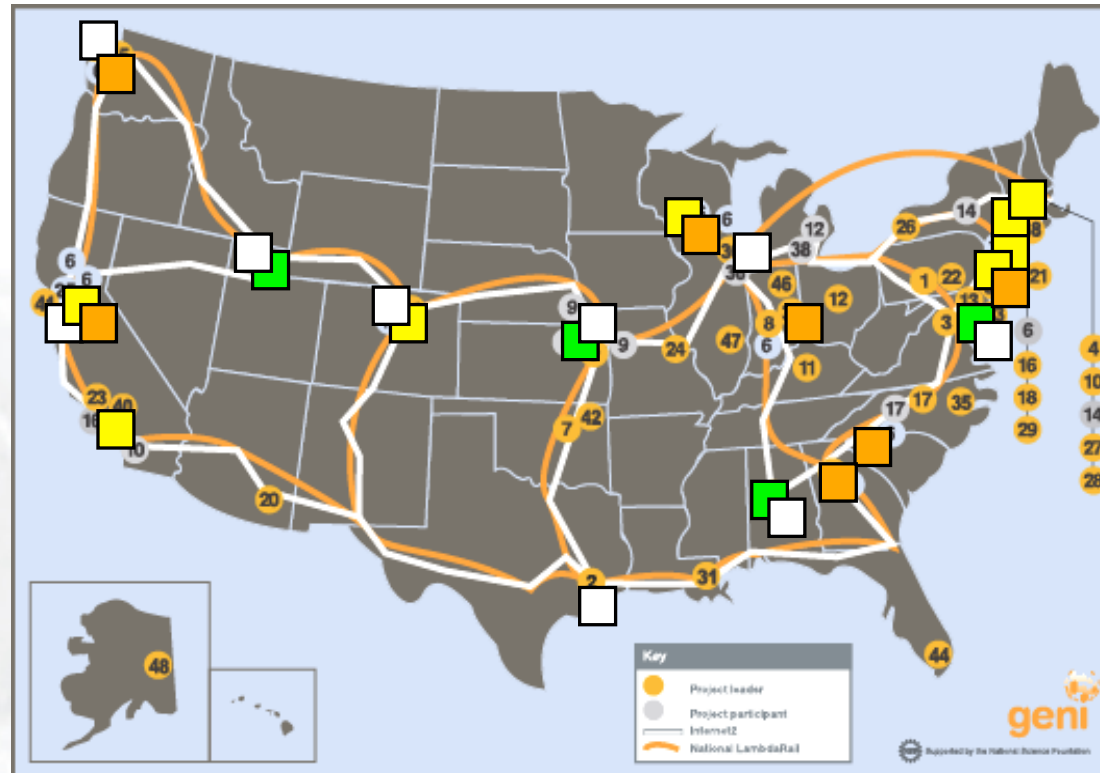
- Stanford
- UCLA
- UC Boulder
- Wisconsin
- Rutgers
- Polytech
- UMass
- Columbia

### ShadowNet

- Salt Lake City
- Kansas City
- DC
- Atlanta

### OpenFlow Backbones

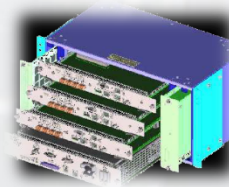
- Seattle
- Salt Lake City
- Sunnyvale
- Denver
- Kansas City
- Houston
- Chicago
- DC
- Atlanta



HP ProCurve 5400 Switch



Juniper MX240 Ethernet Services Router



NEC WiMAX Base Station



Cisco 6509 Switch



Arista 7124S Switch



NEC IP8800 Ethernet Switch



# Infrastructure examples



**DRAGON core nodes**  
**Mid-Atlantic Crossroads**



**WAIL, U. Wisconsin-Madison**



**DieselNet, U. Mass Amherst**



**ViSE,**  
**U. Mass Amherst**



**SPPs, Wash U.**



**ORBIT, Rutgers WINLAB**

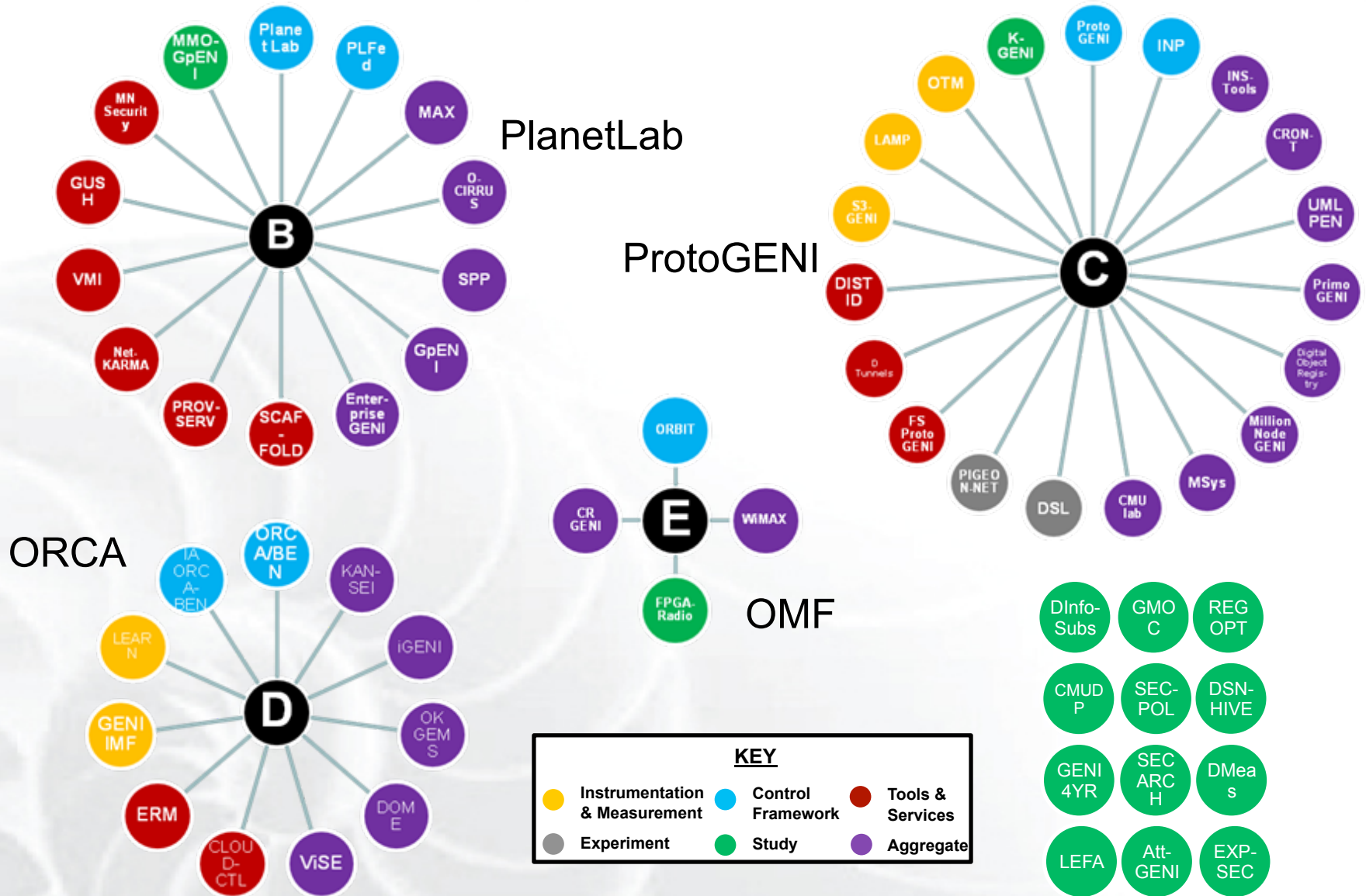
# Spiral 2 Academic-Industrial Teams

Project Name	Project Lead	Project Participants
1. CMUlab	Carnegie Mellon University	Columbia University
2. D Meas, LEARN	University of Houston	
3. Digital Object Registry	Corporation for National Research Initiatives (CNRI)	
4. CLOUD-CTL, DOME, VISE	University of Massachusetts Amherst	
5. DTunnels	The Georgia Institute of Technology	
6. EnterpriseGENI, OpenFlow	Stanford University	Princeton University University of California, Berkeley
		Clemson University Georgia Institute of Technology Indiana University Nicira Networks Princeton University Rutgers University University of Wisconsin University of Washington
7. GENI4YR	Langston University	
8. GMOC, netKarma, K-GENI	Indiana University	
9. GpENI	University of Kansas	Kansas State University, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
		The University of Missouri-Kansas City UC San Diego
10. GushProto	Williams College	
11. INSTOOLS, ISM Infrastructure	University of Kentucky	
12. KANSEI, OTM	Ohio State University	Wayne State University
13. MAX	University of Maryland	
14. MeasurementSys	University of Wisconsin-Madison	Boston University Colgate University
15. MillionNodeGENI, Security	University of Washington	
16. ORBIT, WIMAX	Rutgers University	UCLA, Los Angeles, CA University of Colorado, Boulder, CO University of Massachusetts, Amherst University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI
		Columbia University, NY, NY Polytechnic University of NYU, Brooklyn, NY
17. ORCA/BEN	The Renaissance Computing Institute (RENCI)	Duke University
18. PlanetLab, Scaffold, Federation	Princeton University	Universite Pierre et Marie Curie (UPMC)
19. ProtoGENI	University of Utah	
20. PROVSERV	University of Arizona	
21. ERM	Columbia	
22. REGOPT	Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center (PSC)	
23. SECARCH, Distributed Identity	SPARTA, Inc.	
24. SPP	Washington University	
25. TIED	USC Information Sciences Institute	University of California, Berkeley
26. UB_OANets	SUNY Buffalo	
27. UMLPEN	University of Massachusetts Lowell	
28. CR-GENI	University of Colorado Boulder	Radio Technology Systems LLC Rutgers University
29. CRON-T	Louisiana State University	
30. Design of Information Subs	MIT	
31. DSL, HIVE	UC Davis	Battelle CA Labs
32. EXP-SEC	University of Alabama	
33. FPGA-RADIO	Clemson University	
34. GENI IMF	North Carolina State University	The Renaissance Computing Institute (RENCI) Columbia University
		University of Illinois Chicago Internet2 Brown University
35. IGENI	Northwestern University	
36. LAMP	University of Delaware	
37. LEFA, Supercharged Planetlab	Internet2	
38. NLR	Cypress, CA	
39. Open--CIRRUS	HP Labs, Palo Alto	UCSD
40. OKGems	Oklahoma State University	
41. PIGEON-NET	Howard University	
42. PrimoGENI	Florida International University	
43. QUILT	The Quilt	
44. S3-GENI	Purdue University	HP Labs
45. SEC-POL	University of Illinois (NCSA)	
46. VMI	University of Alaska Fairbanks	



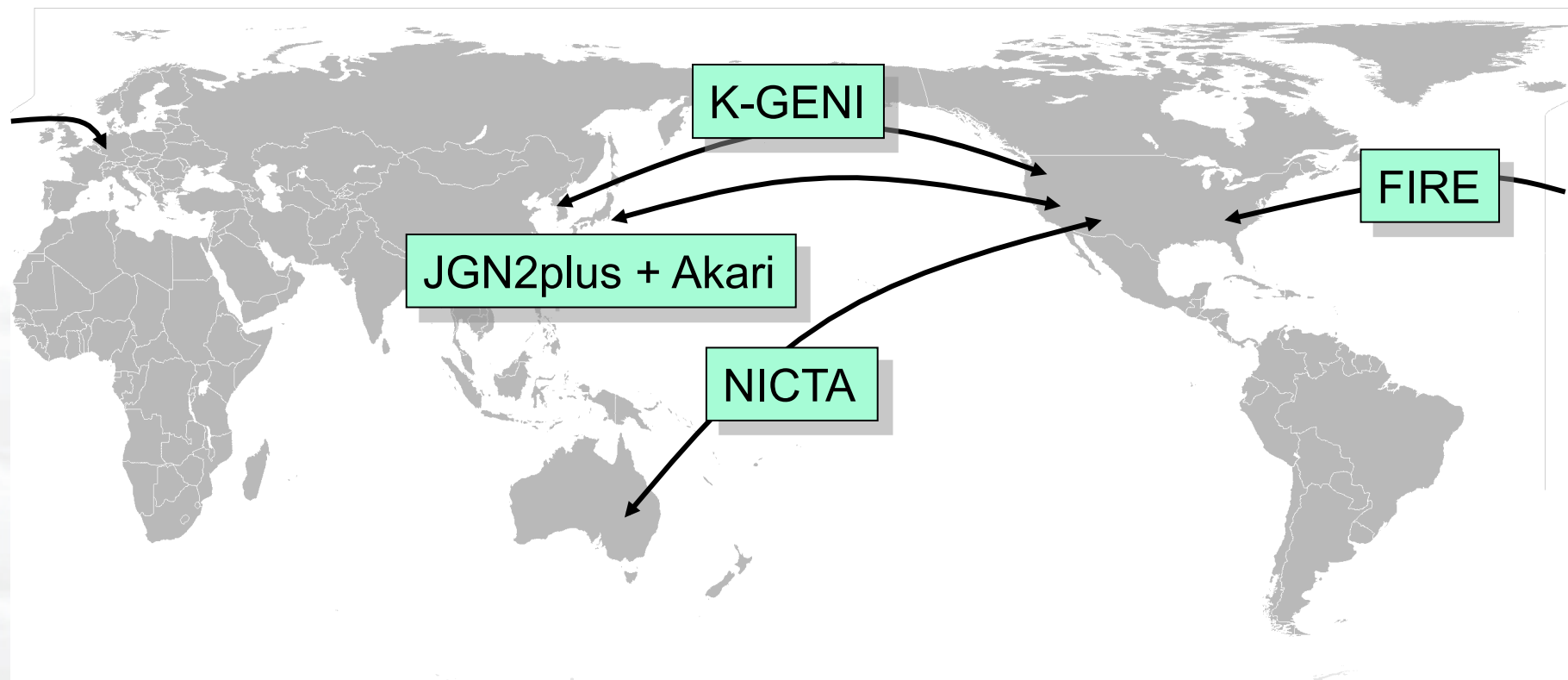


# Spiral 2 Control Framework Teams



- DInfo-Subs
- GMO C
- REG OPT
- CMUD P
- SEC-POL
- DSN-HIVE
- GENI 4YR
- SEC ARCH
- DMeas
- LEFA
- Att-GENI
- EXP-SEC

- Overarching goal
  - Get real experiments up and running
- Technical emphases
  - Integration, particularly of the meso-scale prototype
  - Interoperability
  - Instrumentation
  - Identity management



The GENI Project Office is interested in federation with peer efforts outside the US, based on equality and arising from direct, “researcher to researcher” collaborations.

## Spiral 2 accelerates GENI's roll-out

- Creates a compelling infrastructure for entirely new forms of **network science and engineering experimentation** at a much larger scale than has previously been available
- Stimulates **broad community participation and “opt in”** by early users across 14 major campuses, which can then grow by a further 21 campuses as the build-out progresses, with a strong partnership between researchers and campus infrastructure operators
- Forges a **strong academic / industrial base** by GENI-enabling commercial equipment from Arista, Cisco, HP, Juniper, and NEC, with software from AT&T Labs and Nicira.

- GENI – Exploring future internets at scale
- How we'll use it; how we'll build it  
(Two Comic Books)
- GENI system concept
- Current status and plans: GENI Spiral 2
- How can you participate?



## GENI is designed & built by the community via an open, transparent, & fair GPO Process

- All design, prototyping, & development is performed by the research community (academia & industry)
  - Working Groups, open to all
    - The locus for all GENI technical design
    - Patterned on the early IETF
    - Discuss by email, create documents, meet 3x per year
    - Each led by Chair(s), plus a professional System Engineer
- Openness is emphasized
  - Design process is open, transparent, and broadly inclusive
  - Open-source solutions are strongly preferred
  - Intellectual property is OK, under no-fee license for GENI use
- GPO is fair and even-handed



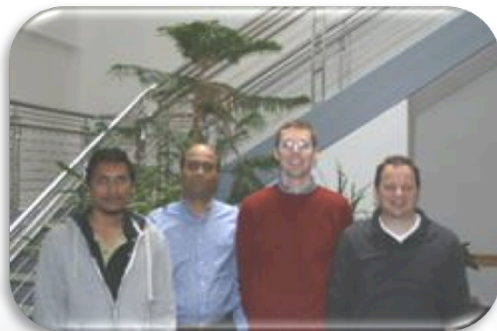


# GENI Engineering Conferences

Meet every 4 months to review progress together

- **8th meeting, open to all:  
July 20 – 22, 2010, San Diego, CA**
  - Team meetings, integrated demos, Working Group meetings
  - Also discuss GPO solicitation, how to submit a proposal, evaluation process & criteria, how much money, etc.
  - **Travel grants** to US academics for participant diversity
- **Subsequent Meetings, open to all who fit in the room**
  - Held at regular 4-month periods
  - Held on / near university campuses (volunteers?)
  - All GPO-funded teams required to participate
  - Systematic, open review of each Working Group status (all documents and prototypes / trials / etc.)
  - Also time for Working Groups to meet face-to-face
  - Discussion will provide input to subsequent spiral goals

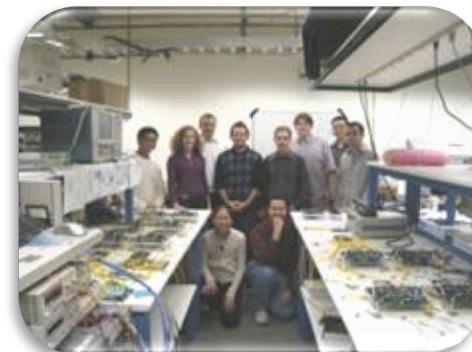
**ViSE Team**



**PlanetLab Team**



**ERM Team**



**ORCA/BEN Team**



**GUSH Team**



**Enterprise GENI Team**



GPO  
points of  
contact

- Prototyping . . . Aaron Falk: [afalk@bbn.com](mailto:afalk@bbn.com)
- Experiments . . . Mark Berman: [mberman@bbn.com](mailto:mberman@bbn.com)
- Campus CIOs . . . Heidi Dempsey: [hdempsey@bbn.com](mailto:hdempsey@bbn.com)
- Industry . . . Chip Elliott: [celllott@bbn.com](mailto:celllott@bbn.com)

Send team photos to [mgillis@bbn.com](mailto:mgillis@bbn.com)

## GENI is a huge opportunity!

- GENI is rapidly taking shape across the US
- GENI Spiral 2 will . . .
  - get real experiments up and running
  - on a “meso-scale” prototype that spans more than a dozen GENI campuses and 2 backbones
- Get involved!

**[www.geni.net](http://www.geni.net)**

Clearinghouse for all GENI news and documents

# Control Framework Working Group

**GENI Engineering Conference 6  
Salt Lake City, UT**



**System Engineer: Aaron Falk**  
**March 16, 2010**  
**[www.geni.net](http://www.geni.net)**



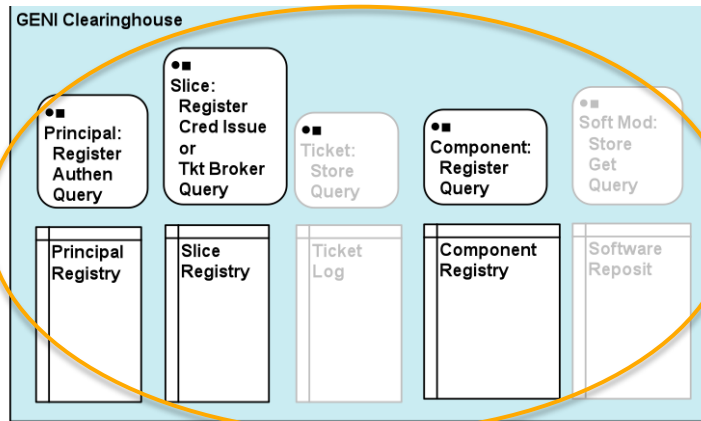
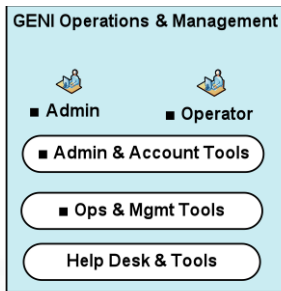
- **What is universal across GENI components?  
How will evolution be accommodated with or without a full transition of all GENI nodes at once?**
- **<http://groups.geni.net/geni/wiki/GeniControl>**



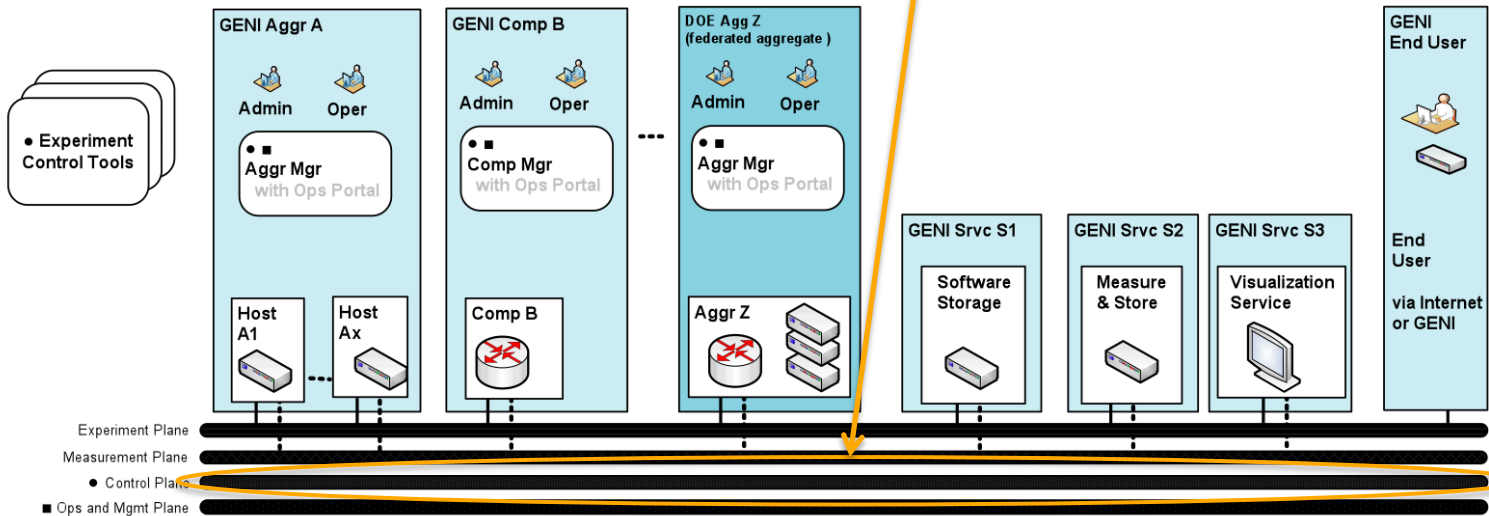
- **Component control: obtaining and managing resources**
- **Slice control: interfaces and mechanisms for establishing and controlling slices**
- **Access control within GENI: usage policy representation and administration mechanisms)**
- **Interactions external to GENI: federation**
- **Key enablers: identity, authentication**



# Relationship to GENI Architecture



The Control Framework WG focuses on cross-component infrastructure and control



- **Chairs:** Jeff Chase, Duke University,  
Rob Ricci, University of Utah
- **GPO Systems Engineer:** Aaron Falk
- **Email list to discuss topics of interest**
  - Open to all; subscribe via wiki page.
- **Working Group wiki**
  - Any email list subscriber can contribute to wiki
  - <http://groups.geni.net/geni/wiki/GeniControl>
- **Face-to-face meetings at GECs**

- **Define a shared CF-aggregate API**
  - Function calls & resource representation
- **Two parallel threads of work:**
  - **Converge APIs of PL and PG control frameworks**
    - Reconcile PlanetLab and ProtoGENI naming, credentials, limited compute & network Rspecs
  - **Define missing elements needed for more general next-gen API**
    - Framework for policies, scheduling, more general resource representation

- **Thursday 9:00AM-11:00AM**
- **Agenda:**
  - **Common PL-PG AM interface (Tom Mitchell, GPO) - 20min**
  - **Recap of stitching discussion on mailing list: general points of agreement and points of disagreement (Aaron Falk, GPO) - 10min**
  - **Authorization, Trust Management, and Identity Management (Jeff Chase, Duke) - 10 min**
  - **GENI Federation Scenarios and Requirements (Sangjin Jeong, ETRI) - 10 min**
  - **Panel: Rob Ricci, Jeff Chase, Max Ott, Rob Sherwood, Dave Irwin, John Wroclawski, Justin Cappos - 70 min**
    - **Candidate topics: federation, authorization, liveness phases**

# **GENI Instrumentation and Measurement Working Group**

**GENI Engineering Conference 7  
Duke University, Durham, NC**

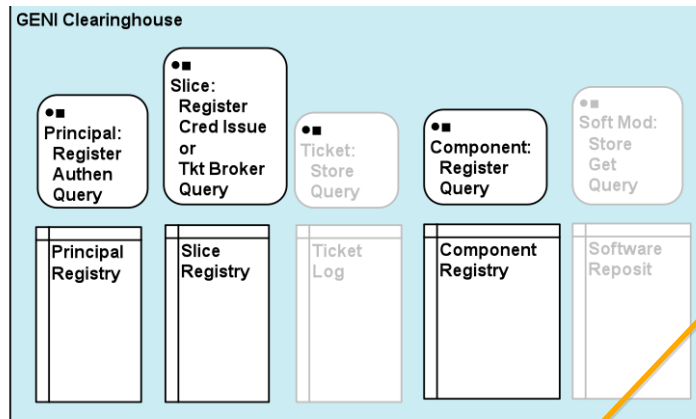
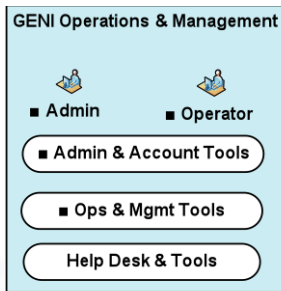


**GPO System Engineer: Harry Mussman  
March 16, 2010  
[www.geni.net](http://www.geni.net)**

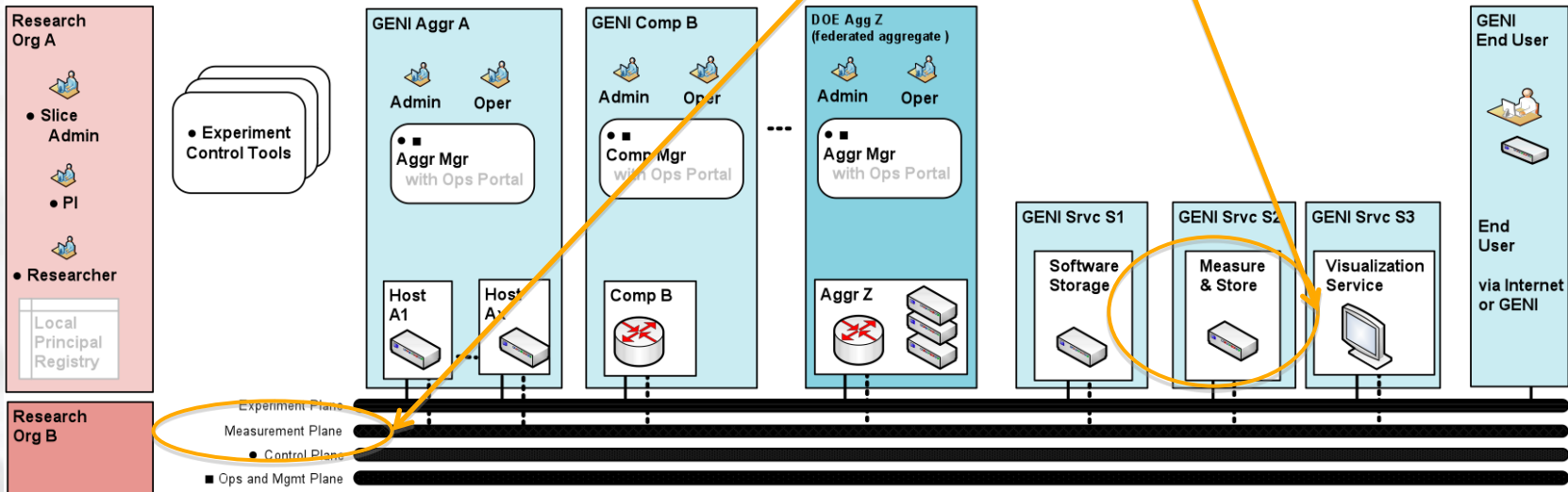


- **Scope:**
  - **Discuss, develop and build consensus around the architectural framework for the instrumentation and measurement infrastructure that will be deployed and used in GENI**
  - **Deploy basic instrumentation and measurement capabilities in GENI Spiral 2**

# Relationship to GENI Architecture



The Instrumentation and Measurement WG focuses on the instrumentation and measurement infrastructure that will be deployed and used in GENI.



- **Co-Chairs:**
  - Paul Barford, Univ of Wisconsin
  - Bruce Maggs, Duke Univ and Akamai
- **GPO Systems Engineer:**
  - Harry Mussman
- **All announcements, minutes, presentations, etc., on WG wiki page at:** <http://groups.geni.net/geni/wiki/GenInstMeas>
- **Mailing list to discuss topics of interest:**
  - **Subscribe at:** <http://lists.geni.net/mailman/listinfo/inst-meas-wg>
  - Any mailing list subscriber can contribute to the wiki
- **WG meetings at GECs:**
  - Meeting at GEC7 on Wed, Mar 17, 3:30pm – 5:30pm

- **Define an architecture for instrumentation and measurement**
- **Deploy basic instrumentation and measurement capabilities in GENI**

- Introductions (5min)
- Major WG issues and goals, by Paul Barford/Univ Wisconsin (15min)
- Short presentations by four I&M projects, covering priority architecture topics: definition and configuration of I&M services; measurement data schema; and measurement plane options (60min)
- [Instrumentation Tools \(1642\)](#), by James Griffioen/U Kentucky
- [OMF/OML \(1660\)](#), by Max Ott/NICTA, Marco Gruteser/Rutgers WINLAB
- [perfSONAR for ntwk measurements \(1788\)](#), by Martin Swany/U Delaware
- DatCat project, by Brad Huffaker/CAIDA at UC SanDiego SuperCompCtr
- [GENI I&M Architecture document](#) Harry Mussman/BBN GPO (15min)  
Review of v0.1 DRAFT, with proposed I&M services and configuration, priority topics and suggested WG discussion topics
- Identify next steps for WG, by Bruce Maggs/Duke U (15min)
- Wrap up, by Harry Mussman/BBN GPO (5min)



## Objectives for WG Meeting at GEC7

- **Begin discussion of priority architecture topics: definition and configuration of I&M services; measurement data schema; and measurement plane options**
- **Identify next steps for WG**

- **Chairs:** Ivan Seskar, Rutgers University; Jim Williams, Indiana University; Ron Hutchins, Georgia Tech
- **GPO Systems Engineer:** Heidi Picher Dempsey
- **Focus on campus issues for networks, operational issues and security**
- **Common operational procedures for GENI projects proposed, adopted, documented**
- **If your project is going to be operational in GENI Spiral 2, you should participate in this working group**
- **You can present a lightning talk (requests to [omis-wg@geni.net](mailto:omis-wg@geni.net))**



Heidi Picher Dempsey

- **GEC7 highlights:**
  - Emergency Stop functions up for working group approval
  - GENI Concept of Operations up for working group review
  - Campus security requirements discussion
- **Email list**
  - <http://lists.geni.net/mailman/listinfo/omis-wg>
- **Working Group Wiki page**
  - <http://groups.geni.net/geni/wiki/GeniOmis>
- **Agenda for GEC7**
  - <http://groups.geni.net/geni/wiki/Gec7OmisAgenda>



Heidi Picher Dempsey

# Experimenter Tools and Services Working Group

**GENI Engineering Conference 7  
Durham, NC**

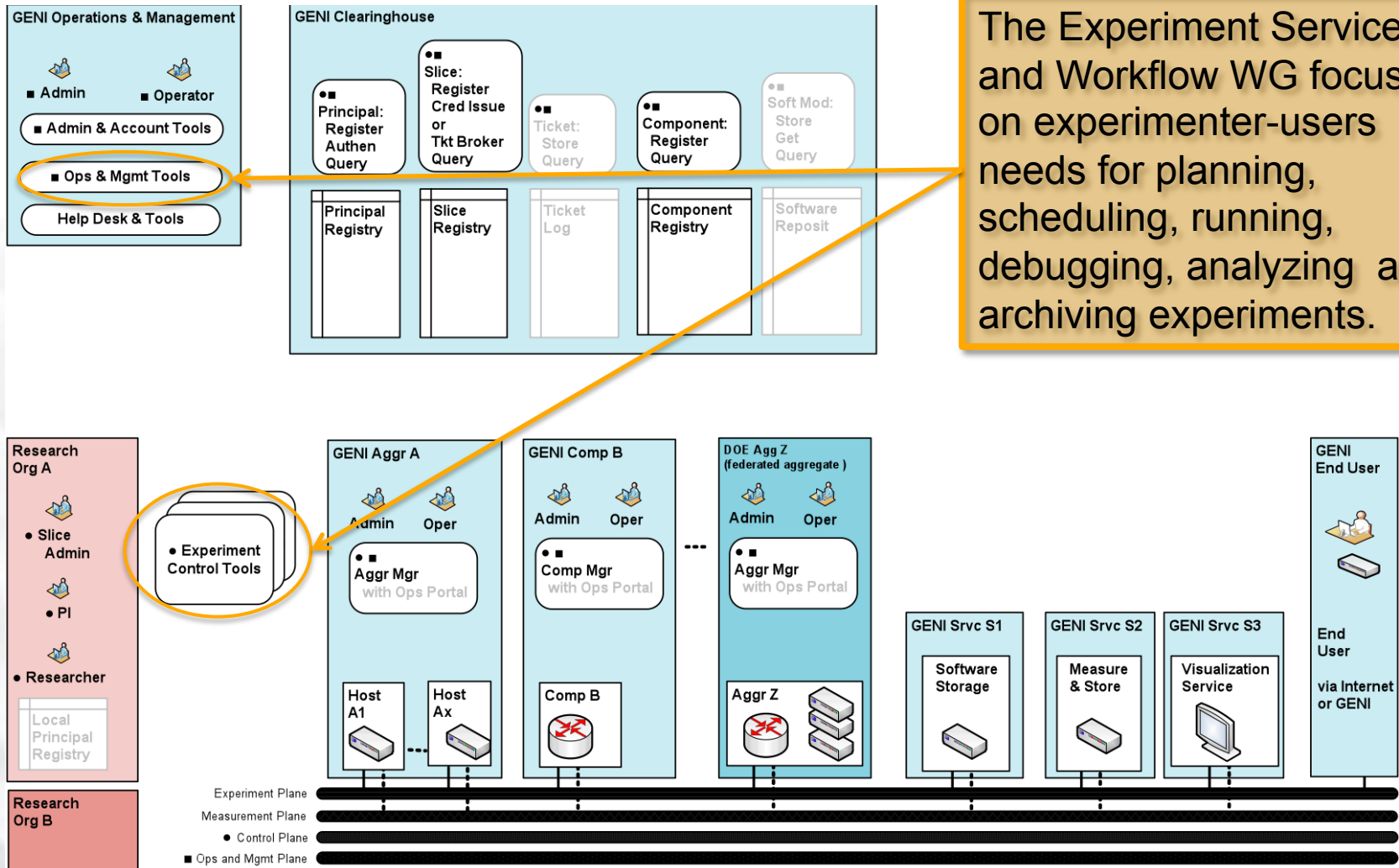


**Vic Thomas**  
**16 March 2010**  
**[www.geni.net](http://www.geni.net)**

- **Identify and specify tools and services needed to run experiments on GENI**
  - Planning, scheduling, deploying, running, debugging, analyzing, growing/shrinking experiments
  - Collaboration
    - Multiple researchers on an experiment
    - Building on other experiments
- **<http://www.geni.net/wg/services-wg.html>**



# Relationship to GENI Architecture



- **Chairs:**
  - Prof. Jeannie Albrecht, Williams College
  - Prof. Jim Griffioen, University of Kentucky
- **GPO Systems Engineer: Vic Thomas**
- **Email list to discuss topics of interest**
  - Open to all
  - Subscribe at URL on previous slide
- **Working Group Wiki page**
  - <http://groups.geni.net/geni/wiki/GeniServices>
  - Any email list subscriber can contribute to wiki
- **Face-to-face meetings at GECs**

- **Support early experiments/experimenters on GENI**
  - Make experimentation as easy as possible for these pioneers
- **Spiral 2 priorities**
  - Understand experimenter's needs
  - Identify tools and services they will need
  - Work with control frameworks and tool developers to support experimenter needs as best we can
- **Longer term objectives**
  - Develop requirements and specifications for experimenter tools and services
  - Define requirements imposed on other GENI sub-systems

- **Thursday March 18 at 9am**
- **Agenda:**
  - ~5 minutes - Opening remarks (James Griffioen)
  - ~10 minutes - Experiment scenarios of interest to four year colleges and minority institutions (Paoli Wognakou)
  - ~15 minutes - **\*New\*** control framework features for running/describing experiments.
    - ProtoGENI (Robert Ricci)
    - ORBIT (Max Ott)
    - ORCA (Anirban Mandal)
  - ~50 minutes - **Tools update: Experimenter tools that are already working and available**
    - PlanetLab Tools (Jeannie Albrecht)
    - ProtoGENI Measurement Tools (Jim Griffioen/Charles Thomas)
    - TIED tools (Ted Faber)
    - Orbit tools (Max Ott)
    - Million Node GENI tools (Justin Cappos)
  - ~15 minutes - **Services update: What services are available and, more importantly, how do we use them?**
    - ABAC Service (Steve Schwab/Jay Jacobs)
  - ~15 minutes - **Wrap-up and discussion (Jeannie Albrecht)**

- **Understand current tool/service capabilities**
- **New control framework features available to tool/service developers**