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Midwest Research Computing and Data Consortium

Midwest RCD Newsletter

July 13, 2025

Midwest RCD Profile Spotlight: Geoffrey Lentner

Geoffrey Lentner, Lead Data Research Scientist in the Rosen Center for Advanced Computing at Purdue University.

Series: Exploring the Landscape of Midwest Research Computing and Data Consortium

This is a series where we're diving into the world of the Midwest Research Computing and Data Consortium, exploring its members, the challenges, and future prospects. We had the opportunity to speak Geoffrey Lentner, Lead Data Research Scientist in the Rosen Center for Advanced Computing at Purdue University.

Geoffrey is a member of the Midwest RCD slack instance, contact them if you'd like to collaborate or learn more about their work.

Read the Interview with Geoffrey Lentner →

Recommend a Colleague for a Profile Spotlight Interview →

Relive the Highlights from the 2025 Midwest RCD Annual Meeting

In April, over 100 research computing and data professionals from 23 institutions gathered at Case Western Reserve University for our annual Midwest RCD Consortium event. Across 1.5 energizing days, attendees explored topics like AI integration, quantum computing in healthcare, OS migrations, and cybersecurity compliance while building meaningful connections with peers across the region.

From hands-on workshops and insightful panels to lightning talks and breakout sessions full of practical takeaways, this year's meeting was all

about sharing what works, what's next, and how we grow together.

Read the full recap to catch up on key themes, standout sessions, and the inspiring momentum shaping our community.

Read the Full Event Recap

We're Headed to PEARC25: See you There!

We're excited to announce that the Midwest RCD Consortium will be presenting a poster at PEARC25 this July in Columbus, Ohio! Our poster, titles "Mapping Collaboration in Midwest: A Social Network Analysis of the MDRCD Community", highlights findings from a two-year analysis of participation and collaboration trends within the Consortium.

Funded by the National Science Foundation since 2022, MDRCD brings together institutions to strengthen research computing an cyberinfrastructure through regional partnerships. Our study looked at institutional representation across the 2024 and 2025 annual meetings, using Carnegie Classifications, public/private status, and social network analysis to uncover how institutions are connecting, where gaps exist, and how we can build a more inclusive and sustainable RCD ecosystem.

If you'll be at PEARC, stop by our poster and say hello, we'd love to talk data, collaboration, and what's next for the Midwest RCD community!

PEARC25

Residency Fellows Program: Funding Available

Have plans to spend time at another Midwest institution to grow your expertise and strengthen CI collaboration? The Midwest RCD **Residency Fellows Program** is here to support you.

The program provides **$1,200 in travel support** for selected individuals to complete a self-arranged, week-long residency at another Midwest institution. It's a great opportunity to deepen professional connections, gain hands-on experience, and explore new ideas with peers across the region.

Residencies should be co-developed by the applicant and the host institution and must align with the Consortium's mission of collaboration and capacity building in research computing and data. Fellows are asked to share a short reflection or summary of their experience after the visit.

Interested? Reach out for details or submit your proposal at pti@iu.edu

Affinity Groups: Learn More About the Application Process

Affinity Groups provide a platform for collaboration around shared topics of interest in research computing and data.

Have an idea? Propose a new group, and we'll support you in bringing it to life! We can provide a limited financial support to help you organize events, discussions, and activities that benefit the research computing and data community. Current groups include:

- Next Generation Data Centers

- Globus Compute

- Scientific Cloud Computing

- CI Value: Return on Investment and Impact

For further information, please email us at pti@iu.edu

Learn More About Affinity Groups

Affinity Group Application Form

Student Opportunities

Know an event to include here? [Submit your upcoming student opportunity](#).

 Various application deadlines
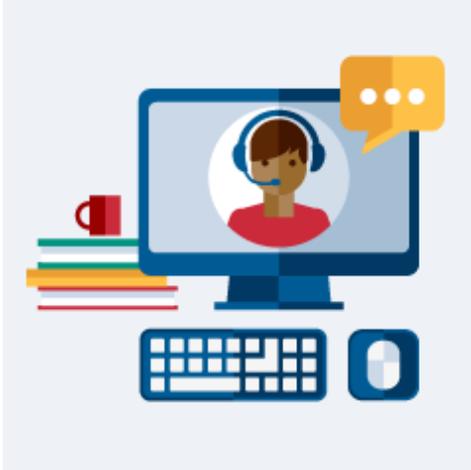## [U.S. Naval Research Laboratory Student Programs](#)

NRL participates in several Student Programs, each with their own features and requirements. Select a program for more information and learn how to apply for each one.

Various application deadlines
[IEEE Computer Society Student Achievements in Computing](#)

Get recognized for your achievements as a student member of the IEEE Computer Society by applying for a scholarship or award program.

Connect with the Midwest RCD

Office Hours with the Program Office at IU

Join us any Tuesday at 11 a.m. Eastern. No registration needed, just click on the Zoom link or use the add to calendar link.

Add Tuesdays to calendar. →
Tuesdays at 11 a.m. Zoom. →

Join/Follow Our LinkedIn Page

Upcoming Related Events and Opportunities

Know an event to include here? Submit your Midwest RCD-related event or opportunity.

Various • Online submission
ACCESS Events & Training

ACCESS is an acronym that stands for "Advanced Cyberinfrastructure Coordination Ecosystem: Services & Support." ACCESS is a program established and funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) to help researchers and educators utilize the nation's advanced computing systems and services. Almost any computer application that requires more than a desktop or laptop could qualify as needing an advanced computing system.

Sun-Thurs, July 20-24, 2025 • Columbus, OH
PEARC25 Conference

ACM PEARC25 will take place in Columbus, Ohio from July 20 – 24, 2025, and will explore the current practice and experience in advanced research computing, including workforce development, training, diversity, applications and software, and systems and software.

Sun-Fri, November 16-21 • St. Louis, MO

[SC25: The International Conference for High Performance Computing, Networking, Storage, and Analysis](#)

Plan to attend the SC25! Each year, SC provides the leading technical program for the HPC community. The Program is designed to share best practices in all areas of high performance computing.
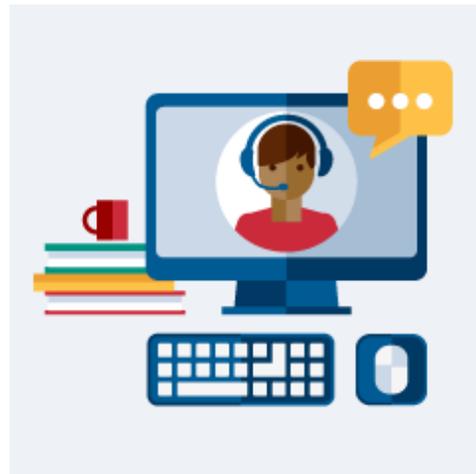
Connect with the Community

[Slack](#) | **[Join Slack](#)** →
[LinkedIn Group](#) | **[Page](#)** →
[Join Mailing List](#) →
[Forward This Email](#)

Next-Gen DC Affinity Group

The Next-Generation Data Center group focuses on learning about advancements in facilities and operations of data centers.

[Join the Next-Gen DC Affinity Group](#) →

Globus Compute Affinity Group

We strive to build an inclusive and equitable culture which will promote and increase diversity. This group is being created to ensure that there is diversity in committees, events (annual meetings), and leadership positions.

Join the Globus Compute Affinity Group →

ROI Affinity Group

This group focuses on approaches to gauging impact as well as quantitative and qualitative measures needed to communicate the benefits of investments in cyberinfrastructure on our campuses.

Join the ROI Affinity Group →

Scientific Cloud Affinity Group

This group focuses on how HPC centers approach cloud computing to support increasingly diverse scientific and engineering research and education endeavors and what skill sets CI professionals will need to support cloud workflows and data management.

Join the Scientific Cloud Affinity Group →

Help Grow the Midwest RCD Consortium: Forward This Newsletter to Your Students & Colleagues

About the Midwest Research Computing and Data Consortium

Regional stakeholders working collectively in a trusted forum can shape the future by working collectively on topics of mutual interest, by onboarding organizations that find value in the mission of the organization, by sharing information transparently, and by providing opportunities for CI professionals staff members in our organization to contribute, to be mentored, to belong to a cohort, and to become leaders.

Read more about Midwest RCD →

RCN:CIP: Midwest Research Computing and Data Consortium

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NSF Award information →

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