Affinity Group Annual Report

Globus Compute

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Group Goals

Formed in FY25, **the Globus Compute Affinity Group** began foundational efforts to engage the regional research computing community around distributed computing, automation, and data management solutions powered by Globus technologies.

During this first year, the group's goals focused on:

- Conducting an initial investigation of member interest and engagement.
- Assessing community needs and service awareness through surveys and discussions.
- Establishing communication and engagement frameworks to strengthen collaboration within the consortium.

Topics of Interest:

- How do you get started with a single-user setup?
- What challenges are you facing with multi-user configurations?
- How can we make Globus Compute more accessible for researchers?
- What best practices can you share with others in the group?

Group Members

- Corinne Adams, University of Michigan
- Todd Raeker, University of Michigan
- Geoffrey Lentner, Purdue University
- Lee Liming, University of Chicago
- Lev Gorenstein, University of Chicago
- Brad Battey, University of Michigan
- Brian O'Shea, Michigan State University
- Charles Christoffer, Purdue University
- Debargha Ganguly, Case Western Reserve University
- Esen Gokpinar Shelton, Indiana University
- Laura Pettit, Indiana University
- Robert Ping, Indiana University
- Scott Hampton, University of Notre Dame
- Todd Shechter, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Wanda Marsolek, University of Minnesota
- Winona Snapp-Childs, Indiana University
- Wyatt Madej, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign

Major Activities (FY25)

In this formative year, the group:

- **Surveyed the regional community online** to assess awareness, current usage, and interest in Globus Compute and related services.
- **Delivered a technical services presentation** to a large in-person audience, highlighting capabilities, recent developments, and potential applications across institutional contexts.

Significant Results

The group's early outreach and engagement yielded valuable insights into regional needs and priorities:

- **Primary Audience Identified:** The strongest interest came from researcher support staff and teams responsible for enabling computational workflows.
- **Service Awareness Strengthened:** Participants gained updated knowledge of Globus Compute's evolving capabilities, availability, and implementation pathways.
- **Emerging Needs Defined:** The group identified increasing demand for solutions addressing access control, regulatory compliance, and data transfer challenges arising from research instrumentation.

Products and Insights

Although still in the early stages, the group has already produced meaningful outcomes:

- **Technical Presentation:** A new presentation was created and shared with regional members, featuring recent Globus Compute updates and future service model plans.
- **Exploratory Projects:** Several regional organizations initiated pilot efforts investigating Globus-based solutions for:
  - Access control and policy compliance.
  - Data transfer and management workflows driven by scientific instrumentation.

Planned Activities (FY26)

In the coming year, the affinity group will build on its early momentum by focusing on deeper engagement and actionable collaboration:

- **Expand Participation:** Increase survey responses and engagement through additional communication channels and outreach strategies.

- **Facilitate Dialogue:** Organize remote and in-person discussion groups to explore specific community challenges and opportunities for shared solutions.
- **Enhance Accessibility:** Develop engagement formats—such as workshops or hybrid sessions—that balance convenience and community impact.
- **Guide Future Focus:** Use participant feedback to prioritize topics for future technical sessions and collaborative projects.