Alejandro Suarez: Alright, I think we'll get started. Hello, and welcome to the NSF webinar on the advanced Cyber Infrastructure coordination Ecosystem Services and Support Program also known as access.

Alejandro Suarez: I'm joined by several of my colleagues in the office of advanced cyber infrastructure, including Robert Shattuck, and Tom Eagle Branson, as well as our office director money should perish arm.

Alejandro Suarez: This meeting is being recorded and will be available online via the event page in the coming days.

Alejandro Suarez: In this webinar, we wish to inform the research computing community about the Access Program.

Alejandro Suarez: We will begin with some comments from the office, director of always see Dr Minish parish, or who will describe oases vision for the cyber infrastructure ecosystem and set some context.

Alejandro Suarez: We will then describe the access program itself and its high level objectives.

Alejandro Suarez: Well then detail the two solicitations that form the access program and SF dash 555 and NSF dash 556.

Alejandro Suarez: Lastly, we will provide answers to frequently asked questions and provide time for questions from attendees at any time during this webinar, you may submit questions to us via the Q AMP a function within zoom.

Alejandro Suarez: Our goal for this webinar is to help ensure the submission of high quality well aligned proposals for robust set of coordination services and support activities.

Alejandro Suarez: So I will now hand it over to Dr. Manish parish or to set some context for the Access Program.
Alejandro Suarez: Or double check your microphone.

Alejandro Suarez: We're still trying to hear you finish.

Alejandro Suarez: Do you perhaps try changing your microphone.

Manish Parashar: Is this better. Correct.

Manish Parashar: Yes.

Alejandro Suarez: Perfect coming in, loud and clear.

Manish Parashar: Well, apologies for that, and good morning or good afternoon as the case may be. I know we're here to

Manish Parashar: Talk about the solicitation. But we thought it'd be a good idea to take a step back and provide a broader context about the program. How's it fits into our vision for an advanced Cyber Infrastructure ecosystem.

Manish Parashar: And how we got to

Manish Parashar: The solicitation.

Manish Parashar: Could you click on the slide please. I'll

Amy Friedlander: The solicitation.

Manish Parashar: Also, as you've heard me say

Manish Parashar: This many times now.
Manish Parashar: We view Cyber Infrastructure broadly as made up of many different pieces and coordination and user support.

26
00:04:07.680 --> 00:04:27.840
Manish Parashar: The coordination services is an essential part of this cyber infrastructure ecosystem. And as we try to build our investments in these we have realized that it is important that these these pieces work together towards enabling science, could you click on that is out.

27
00:04:30.510 --> 00:04:41.580
Manish Parashar: And and the cyber infrastructure services. Again it important to make sure that these different components of the cyber infrastructure really work together towards enabling discovery.

28
00:04:41.850 --> 00:04:48.960
Manish Parashar: The second thing that you've heard me say many times is that our cyber infrastructure ecosystem. It's needs.

29
00:04:49.260 --> 00:05:02.040
Manish Parashar: And and the entire context is evolving quickly whether in the type of demand. You're saying the technologies that exist or the applications. Again, enabling or what the users value.

30
00:05:02.400 --> 00:05:15.330
Manish Parashar: And so a cyber infrastructure ecosystem has to evolve. And so what we have been doing it always see is laying out a vision on how we see the cyber infrastructure ecosystem moving forward.

31
00:05:15.660 --> 00:05:28.380
Manish Parashar: And this vision is based on a few overarching principles. The first one is realizing that the different pieces of cyber infrastructure have to work together. And so we have to view Cyber Infrastructure holistically.

32
00:05:29.100 --> 00:05:39.300
Manish Parashar: Are clearly we need to make sure that we are innovating and so translational research in bringing the innovation, the cyber infrastructure is important.

33
00:05:40.500 --> 00:05:51.480
Manish Parashar: While we innovate. We also have to balance that innovation with stability and make sure we have the the stability that the user community needs and expects

34
00:05:52.050 --> 00:06:12.960
Manish Parashar: A couple the discovery with innovation. So make sure that while the sciences evolve the cyber infrastructure is also evolving and the two are are in a evolving in a couple of manner and keeping the users and usability center central as we move forward our next slide please.

35
00:06:15.000 --> 00:06:34.560
Manish Parashar: So the way we have done this is work with you the community to understand along each dimension each element of the cyber infrastructure, what the vision should look like, what the needs are and what the cyber
infrastructure should look like moving forward. We then

36
00:06:36.150 --> 00:06:40.830
Manish Parashar: Take what we have heard and put it into these blueprint documents which

37
00:06:41.610 --> 00:06:46.800
Manish Parashar: represent our understanding and our vision, our interpretation of this community engagement.

38
00:06:46.860 --> 00:07:01.680
Manish Parashar: In terms of the cyber infrastructure ecosystem. And then these lead to solicitations and we have been doing this consistently over the past few years along many different dimensions of the cyber infrastructure ecosystem. Next slide please.

39
00:07:04.170 --> 00:07:07.500
Manish Parashar: So in terms of the coordinating services.

40
00:07:08.520 --> 00:07:16.170
Manish Parashar: We had a workshop where we brought the community together about two years, two and a half years back now.

41
00:07:17.760 --> 00:07:22.230
Manish Parashar: Or sorry, about a year and a half back now and the goal of this

42
00:07:23.730 --> 00:07:35.310
Manish Parashar: Workshop was to see what do these coordinated Simon infrastructure look like moving forward to enable science and the 21st century science and engineering research and education in the 21st century.

43
00:07:35.610 --> 00:07:43.800
Manish Parashar: And there were a few outcomes of this which are summarizing the slide are the first one is clearly that the goal here is to transform science and keeping science and

44
00:07:44.160 --> 00:07:56.220
Manish Parashar: Central to this are realizing that it's an ecosystem means there are many different needs that have to work together that have different time scales different scales, but still have to come together as an ecosystem.

45
00:07:56.700 --> 00:08:03.960
Manish Parashar: Are there are new domains coming in with very different eats which have to be assimilated and served by the services.

46
00:08:04.530 --> 00:08:24.150
Manish Parashar: campuses are going to play an important role both as a place where we have the increasing amount of capabilities. But also, that's where the users and the science is happening and how do we make sure that it's well integrated into the into the the services as the think about them.
Manish Parashar: Integration integrate the services that in multiple different services that have to work collectively

And the services should not only allocate resources, but should think much broader than that the report from this workshop is online and and you can look at it. So we took this report and then we built the blueprint around it. Next slide please.

To complement our other blueprint. So here are our set of blueprints. If you've released right now the CI coordination services blueprint builds off this workshop report that I talked about. Next slide.

And really what it does is it takes the outcome from that workshop and the community discussion and identifies what are the key.

Elements of this coordination service. What are the services that you're looking for, but also Christ to address.

The key needs that came in, for example, how do we ensure scalability, not just in size but also in breadth to bring in these different needs and different communities.

How do we make sure that we have flexibility, both in how these are coordinated and manage moving, moving forward, how do we make sure that we have the required level of as these communities, changing the needs of all, how do we make sure that we can manage them in an effective manner.

And how do we make sure that we have agility in the operation and evolution. So as again different communities with different needs change and evolve and grow. How can we adapt the services to meet these emerging needs.

Next slide.

And so this has resulted in the solicitation that you'll hear a lot more of in this webinar. Over the next
Manish Parashar: So, but before I turn it over to our next slide.

Manish Parashar: To take you to the webinar. I just want to leave you with this broader vision that we have for this.

Manish Parashar: Natural research infrastructure. It's an ecosystem that builds on a heterogeneous set of capabilities and capacities. The Advanced Computing ecosystem that we have been deploying over the past few years, right, and then provides the necessary services coordination services that can really democratize access.

Manish Parashar: To the entire science and engineering research and education community to be able to leverage this right. And so what we looked at are we based over to out to dig deeper into the solicitation.

Alejandro Suarez: Thank you, Manish, for that context setting. This is a great segue into the solicitations themselves so access comprises a to solicitations, each with different missions.

Alejandro Suarez: And NSF dash 555 requests proposals from organizations willing to serve as a one to five independently managed yet to tightly cooperative service tracks.

Alejandro Suarez: Well, NSF dash 556 request proposals from organizations willing to serve as a Coordination Office to support the collective and coordinated operations of the NSF access track awardees. Keep in mind that the deadline for both solicitations is Thursday, June 16, 2021.

Alejandro Suarez: This figure present in both solicitations breaks down the various access services.

Alejandro Suarez: Will spend some time in upcoming slides going over the details and specific activities of each of
these service tracks and the Coordination Office. So we will definitely revisit this

Alejandro Suarez: But the guiding principles for this program are outlined as follows.

Alejandro Suarez: Always see is interested in establishing a suite of CI coordination services meant to support a broad and diverse set of requirements, users and usage modes from all areas of science and engineering research and education.

Alejandro Suarez: And support of this mission solicitation NSF 21 dash 555 expects to fund five awards for five independently managed yet tightly cooperative services defined in the following five tracks.

Alejandro Suarez: One is allocation services, two is end user support services, three is operations and integration services for monitoring and measurement services, and five our technology translation services.

Alejandro Suarez: Together, these services are expected to provide a seamless experience for an increasing breadth of research users across a highly performing innovative array of national computational computing resources.

Alejandro Suarez: SF 21 dash 555 calls out specific activities that should be described in proposals for each of the five tracks while plans for such activities are required plans for additional relevant activities at the proposals discretion are welcome.

Alejandro Suarez: A suite, the suite of awardees expected by NSF 21 dash 555 would benefit from a third party to support their collective and coordinated operation.

Alejandro Suarez: In support of this an access Coordination Office is expected to be awarded via NSF at 21 dash 556 AND YOU CAN SEE IT services and activities at the bottom of this figure.

Alejandro Suarez: We will now step through the specific activities of each of the five access service tracks and the services from NSF 21 dash 556.

Alejandro Suarez: Note that all guidance presented in the text for NSF 21 dash 555 is given equal weight and the details that we will cover today are not meant to be seen as prioritized over any texts not discussed.
Alejandro Suarez: We'll start with allocation services will be responsible for providing equitable access to NSF funded CI resources for the nation's SME research and education community.

Alejandro Suarez: With the goal of enabling discoveries at scales beyond the reach of an individual or regional academic institution, the location services track comprises three to find activities education services themselves innovative pilots and a service model.

Alejandro Suarez: The budget for this activity should be no more than $7.5 million total over a duration of five years.

Alejandro Suarez: Ci resources that will be allocated must include the range of computing resources funded in the NSF Advanced Computing Systems portfolio.

Alejandro Suarez: Including leadership class computing and the Advanced Computing Systems and services.

Alejandro Suarez: As well as NSF funded CI resource providers that have committed to provisioning resources and services to the wider national SME community, such as those funded by the major research instrumentation program.

Alejandro Suarez: Campus Cyber Infrastructure program and any other resources deemed necessary by the proposal to enable transformative research in next generation and to end SME discovery workflows.

Alejandro Suarez: The location services plan should detail in the near term plans to evolve current resource allocation processes.

Alejandro Suarez: With concrete actions to progressively incorporate innovation and and efficiencies, such as but not limited to leveraging off the shelf software components commercial cloud computing services new modes of evaluation new methods for allocation of non computing resources, etc.

Alejandro Suarez: The pilots plan will detail a longer term vision to examine novel and potentially disruptive new allocation models and processes to incorporate the agility and responsiveness needed to address the rapidly evolving research and CIO resource provider landscape.

Alejandro Suarez: Lastly, the surface model should describe how the to the SME community, how the NSF funded CI resource providers.
Alejandro Suarez: And the end user support services track as well as any other tracks to find in a solicitation as appropriate. So how it will

Alejandro Suarez: reach those stakeholders. The model must include effective processes for onboarding and engaging with new NSF funded CI resources to ensure that the unique capabilities provisioned by the resource are made available to the SME community.

Alejandro Suarez: service model must also described a well defined interface to the end user support services track to ensure effective communication with and direct support of the SME research community with respect to the proposed allocation processes.

Alejandro Suarez: Now on the track to

Alejandro Suarez: End user support services will be responsible for ensuring a high quality productive experience for perspective and current users when engaging with the NSF funded CI resource providers at any stage.

Alejandro Suarez: The successful end user support services award. He will serve end users with planned pending or current allocations on NSF funded CI resources.

Alejandro Suarez: Or those who are otherwise Udall is utilizing associated services for example data and software services.

Alejandro Suarez: And user support services should comprise for defined activities general user assistance allocation and utilization assistance and user training and the development of a computational science support network or CSS in

Alejandro Suarez: The budget for this activity should be no more than $10 million total over a duration of five years.

Alejandro Suarez: The plans for general user assistance and allocation and utilization assistance should together detail how information will be made available to users.
relevant services such as the location services.

Alejandro Suarez: Then user training plan should detail how the proposed project will organize and develop training materials courses and events disseminated via the access web portal and access supported workshops.

Alejandro Suarez: Note that plan training activities should focus on teaching users, how to make maximal efficient and effective utilization of access services and NSF funded CI resources.

Alejandro Suarez: Lastly,

We asked for proposals to describe plans to develop and foster a computational science support network or CSM that will assimilate and coordinate the human human capital.

Alejandro Suarez: Separately funded by NSF at the national, regional and campus levels and engage with the relevant existing community organizations and structures.

Alejandro Suarez: And moving on to track three operations and integration services.

The services are expected to provide core integrated services processes and policies in support of the assimilation and operations of resources that are part of the NSF funded national CI ecosystem.

Alejandro Suarez: With the goal of enabling a coordinated secure robust and usable platform for transformative research across all of science and engineering.

The primary stakeholders for operations and integration services will be relevant personnel at NSF funded CI resource providers, including the operations and maintenance and user support and CI research staff.

The successful track three awardee is expected to have well defined relationships and divisions of responsibilities with such personnel, including but not limited to

The implementation of policies for onboarding and integrating into the NSF funded national CI ecosystem proposals to track three must include plans for the following relevant activities operations operational support
data and networking support and cybersecurity support.

112
00:20:55.500 --> 00:21:00.840
Alejandro Suarez: The budget for this activity should be no more than $20 million over a duration of five years.

113
00:21:02.850 --> 00:21:13.710
Alejandro Suarez: The operational support plan should detail how the proposed service would function as an information sharing platform between the operations and maintenance staff at the NSF funded CI resource providers.

114
00:21:14.160 --> 00:21:25.830
Alejandro Suarez: such activities could include but are not limited to sharing best practices for the configuration and management of computational systems, the development of resource integration frameworks and authentication strategies.

115
00:21:27.420 --> 00:21:34.320
Alejandro Suarez: The data and networking support plan should focus on leveraging existing networking infrastructure for the NSF CI ecosystem.

116
00:21:34.890 --> 00:21:48.660
Alejandro Suarez: This should include information on how existing incumbent data networking capabilities and services will be transitioned into the vision of the proposer should also detail how the proposal will work with the monitoring and measurement track on best practices.

117
00:21:50.100 --> 00:22:05.670
Alejandro Suarez: The plan for cyber security should detail how the proposal were worked with service providers to ensure a safe, secure and trustworthy shared ca ecosystem that should detail how continuity from existing incumbent activities will be maintained and transitioned into the proposals vision.

118
00:22:09.930 --> 00:22:17.610
Alejandro Suarez: Notes that activities funded the attract three are not expected to include Help Desk level support specific to a given resource provider.

119
00:22:17.850 --> 00:22:25.650
Alejandro Suarez: Which is separately supported through operations and maintenance funds in always sees service provider acquisition programs, including the a CSS program.

120
00:22:26.280 --> 00:22:34.350
Alejandro Suarez: Activities funded under this track are also not meant to provide hardware, software or other infrastructure support for other tracks in this solicitation.

121
00:22:38.280 --> 00:22:39.480
Alejandro Suarez: Moving on to track for
Alejandro Suarez: The monitoring and measurement track is expected to serve the role of providing an integrated and open data collection and analytics platform to ensure optimal performance robustness and usage of NSF funded resources, including computer storage networking software data services etc, as well as to facilitate timely decision making for a broad range of stakeholders. Stakeholders for this track includes CI resource owners, SME research users CI software developers as well as future CI capacity and capability planners.

Proposals to this track requested to provide the following defined plans: monitoring and measurement operations, a service model and a data analytics framework.

The budget for this activity should not exceed $10 million over a duration of five years.

The monitoring measurement operations plan must be provided with a detailed schedule to begin taking on the production operational role currently performed by the incumbent already within nine months of award. The schedule must clearly indicate milestones and deliverables, especially if critical features will be deployed in a stage manner.

This operations plan must also include a detailed risk management plan to identify, analyze and mitigate known risk factors.

A service model must define the service model to the SME community, the NSF funded CI resource providers and any other tracks to find in the solicitation.

To provide additional utility to the stakeholders as appropriate, include effective processes for engaging with the NSF wider NSF funded CI ecosystem and expected outcomes.

Proposals are also requested to describe their data analytics framework and the features that will provide to address the needs of the targeted stakeholders.

Proposers must describe the usability of the framework and how it will provide customizable and multi view interfaces for reporting a broad range of operational and higher level impact metrics across time, as well as...
Alejandro Suarez: proposers must also described the types of information and data that will be assimilated into the framework to garner insights not otherwise possible.

Alejandro Suarez: The proposed framework must allow individual and aggregated groups of CI resources to be examined for usage trends across multiple dimensions as well as identification of capability gaps at local and global scales.

Alejandro Suarez: Additionally proposers must describe the machine readable interfaces that will be available to enable automation of SME workflows.

Alejandro Suarez: And the incorporation of forward looking predictive data analytics techniques such as those based on machine learning any other features of the proposed data analytics framework that addresses the goals of this service should be described.

Alejandro Suarez: Last but not least we have track five, the technology translation services track it's intended to support new models of engagement among NSF supported CI research researchers and developers.

Alejandro Suarez: SME research communities NSF funded CI resource providers and potential providers of other CI coordination services as appropriate.

Alejandro Suarez: Most importantly, the technology translation services are also expected to maintain well defined and documented interfaces with the CIO research and developer community as well as with resource providers.

Alejandro Suarez: To ensure the translation of CI innovations to production and to maximize their potential impact on science and engineering.

Alejandro Suarez: Services in this track should consider how the integration of the data and software projects into production.

Alejandro Suarez: Is responsive to the needs and priorities of the SME research communities as well as the opportunities for improved efficiencies and performance in the operations of the CIO ecosystem.
Alejandro Suarez: Proposals to provide technology translation and integration services in response to this track.

Alejandro Suarez: Proposals to this tracker proposers to this track or requested to provide the following defined plans for the for these relevant activities.

Pilot development phase operations production phase operations and a technology translation pipeline.

The budget for this activity should not exceed $10 million over a duration of five years.

Operations in this track should include two defined phases of operations. The pilot slash development phase and the production phase.

During the pilot slash development phase, the proposals should develop document and begin executing processes for determining

Using established criteria and metrics and with community inputs which solutions to move to production and for how long. And you can see more information on that. And the translation pipeline to be discussed.

Proposals should carefully consider the time spent in piloting and development and how to transition to a production phase.

As the project transitions to the production phase, it should exploit economies of scale to allow for less time and budget to compete committed on a per project basis.

The technology translation pipeline should detail how the award, he will select data and software technology solution candidates and deploy them into production operations at NSF funded CI resource providers, for example.
Alejandro Suarez: As software packages or hosted services, the processes for selection and deployment of technology solutions should be based on established metrics enterprise best practices, an SME commit community engagement.

Alejandro Suarez: The translation pipeline should also describe how the proposed service will serve as a custodian of the given solution candidate. Once it graduates into production, including how long the candidate will be supported.

Alejandro Suarez: Engagement mechanisms with both the solution developers and see I resource provider hosts and relevant metrics to gauge success.

Alejandro Suarez: Furthermore, the technology translation service providers are expected to work with resource providers to sustain the solutions and production operations. So that CI innovations can be leveraged by the user community for SME research and education.

Alejandro Suarez: So one note on the plan activities for all tracks.

Alejandro Suarez: The expectations for each tracks to find activities, their scope and review criteria can found and can be found in the program description proposal preparation instructions and additional solicitation specific rave review criteria sections of solicitation NSF dash 555

Alejandro Suarez: For example, while all the listed plans and the previous slides required plans for additional track relevant activities at the proposals discretion are welcome.

Alejandro Suarez: Is this true for all tracks within NSF 21 dash 555 and please refer to the solicitation text and this the sections listed here for more detail about these defined activities.

Alejandro Suarez: Awardees in all tracks of NSF dash 555 will be expected to interface operationally

Alejandro Suarez: With one or more defined access service tracks and with the coordination function to be supported by NSF through the separate access Coordination Office awarded by NSF 21 dash 556

Alejandro Suarez: More information on specific requirements to these interfaces can be found in the solicitation text, for
example, and in each track the P is for the award will be expected to serve on the access Executive Council as managed by the ACM

165
00:31:00.270 --> 00:31:18.630
Alejandro Suarez: So who may submit to NSF 21 best 555 institutions of higher education are eligible to submit. We will comment on the case of sub awardees our other partners, including those not designated as I Jes during a bit of slides later in this webinar.

166
00:31:19.800 --> 00:31:30.480
Alejandro Suarez: The number of proposals per PII or copia allowed is one an individual may be the PCI on no more than one proposal that response to a solicitation.

167
00:31:31.470 --> 00:31:40.620
Alejandro Suarez: An individual may also serve as a senior personnel on proposals to tracks, other than the track to which they have submitted a proposal has the API.

168
00:31:41.730 --> 00:31:53.700
Alejandro Suarez: limit on the number of proposals for organization is one, an organization may submit only one proposal, but maybe a sub awardee on other proposals responding to this solicitation.

169
00:31:54.720 --> 00:32:07.080
Alejandro Suarez: Note that these eligibility requirements are specific to NSF 21 dash 555 and the eligibility for NSF 21 best 556 and any overlap will be discussed in a moment.

170
00:32:09.990 --> 00:32:16.860
Alejandro Suarez: Note that NSF 21 dash 555 has solicitation specific guidance regarding collaborative proposals.

171
00:32:17.640 --> 00:32:23.790
Alejandro Suarez: collaborative projects may only be submitted as a single proposal, in which a single award is being requested.

172
00:32:24.330 --> 00:32:31.170
Alejandro Suarez: More information about this can be found in the link section here of the P A P PG

173
00:32:31.950 --> 00:32:37.800
Alejandro Suarez: The involvement of partner organizations should be supported through some awards administered by the submitting organization.

174
00:32:38.670 --> 00:32:43.410
Alejandro Suarez: These eligibility constraints will be strictly enforced in order to treat everyone fairly and consistently.

175
00:32:44.070 --> 00:32:54.000
Alejandro Suarez: The event that an organization or individual exceeds this limits the proposals received within the limit
will be accepted, based on the earliest date and time of proposal submission and no exceptions will be made.

Alejandro Suarez: With regards to proposal preparation instructions proposal titles must begin with either track one or track to etc. Depending on the track being proposed.

Alejandro Suarez: Only personnel directly connected to the project should be listed as collaborators, the page limit for the project description section of proposals is 25 pages.

Alejandro Suarez: Please refer to the solicitation for more detail about content required and proposals, for example, a list of all organizations involved in the proposed project is required as a supplementary document in all tracks.

Alejandro Suarez: So will now change gears to the second solicitation to be discussed in this webinar solicitation NSF dash 556 which supports the access Coordination Office or a CEO.

Alejandro Suarez: The CEO will provide coordination support services and staffing for the top level facilitation and governance and communications among the access awardees and what the public, including support for top level inter awardee coordination.

Alejandro Suarez: Coordination of an internal, external advisory board to the access awardees and establishment of a common framework of access community outreach and information dissemination, for example, common landing page for access activities.

Alejandro Suarez: The work of the CEO includes the following relevant activities management and administration of an access Executive Council creation and management of an external access advisory board.

Alejandro Suarez: And access wide communication outreach and other community building activities. It also asked for management of certain in terms of the coordination activities, the communication outreach. That's great.

Alejandro Suarez: The budget for this activity should be no more than $5 million total over a duration of five years.

Alejandro Suarez: The access Executive Council will comprise the principal investigators are p eyes have access awardees as primary members.
Alejandro Suarez: And an agreed upon number of other access award senior personnel a secondary members or observers.

Alejandro Suarez: The purpose of the access Executive Council is to affect top level coordination and governance among all access awardees.

Alejandro Suarez: In order to ensure high operational efficiency and user centric performance of the collective access resources for the benefit of the scientific and engineering research community.

Alejandro Suarez: The Council is also meant to prepare access wide communications, such as annual community reports to the SME research community supported by the access awardees covering progress on activities over the year science highlights and track specific plans for the future.

Alejandro Suarez: The CEO will facilitate the creation of agreed upon charter and meeting cadence provide coordination services for in person and online meetings track the Executive Council membership and preparing disseminate meeting minutes amongst the members.

Alejandro Suarez: The access external advisory board will provide the Executive Council with advice on various services provided by the Access Program awardees.

Alejandro Suarez: And include a diverse group of Members representing the broad SME and CI communities served by access this board should not include individuals from other access awardee tracks.

Alejandro Suarez: The access external advisory board is expected to establish a charter and relevant operations procedures in consultation with an approval from all members of the Executive Council.

Alejandro Suarez: The CEO will organize the establishment of an agreed to charter and meeting cadence for the external advisory board.

Alejandro Suarez: And will provide coordination services for in person and online meetings track external advisory board membership prepare and disseminate meeting minutes among the members and establishing internal archive of the same accessible to Members.
Alejandro Suarez: The external advisory board will be expected to meet at least yearly and will include the NSF
cognizant program officer for the Access Program as an ex officio observer.

00:37:12.180 --> 00:37:18.450
Alejandro Suarez: proposers should describe the communication and outreach activities that the ACI will carry out

00:37:18.840 --> 00:37:29.790
Alejandro Suarez: To engage with both established and burgeoning CI user communities across a broad range of SME
disciplines with possible interest or active participation in the access coordination services.

00:37:30.510 --> 00:37:41.310
Alejandro Suarez: Communications and outreach activities should include but are not limited to development and
maintenance of a unified web portal for public communications about ongoing or planned access activities.

00:37:41.730 --> 00:37:55.620
Alejandro Suarez: Editing and dissemination of regular community communications, such as newsletters and
development under direction from the access Executive Council of annual public reports highlighting access supported
research activities and other milestones.

00:37:57.360 --> 00:38:02.670
Alejandro Suarez: The ICO awardee will interface with the P is for the individual access coordination service tracks.

00:38:03.210 --> 00:38:18.300
Alejandro Suarez: Note that the ICO itself will not engage in overall governance or management responsibilities for the
access program but awardees will enable other access awardees to accomplish those activities through provisioning of
staffing and services.

00:38:21.720 --> 00:38:31.410
Alejandro Suarez: So proposal preparation instructions for NSF 21 dash 556 are as follows proposal titles must begin
with a co colon.

00:38:32.490 --> 00:38:41.400
Alejandro Suarez: Only personnel directly connected to the project should be listed as collaborators, the page limit for
the project description section of the proposal is 25 pages.

00:38:42.480 --> 00:38:49.170
Alejandro Suarez: Please refer to the solicitation for more detail about sectioning have defined activities within the
project description.

00:38:50.760 --> 00:38:51.180
Alejandro Suarez: As in
Alejandro Suarez: You can see, for example, that supplements certain supplementary documents are required, such as the list of all organizations involved in the proposed project.

Alejandro Suarez: So who may submit to 21 dash 556 institutions of higher education are eligible to submit to this project and will comment just like before, will comment on the case of civil war DS and a future slide.

Alejandro Suarez: The number of proposals or proposers per PII or copy is one number of proposals for organization is one and note that the eligibility requirements are specific to NSF 21 dash 556 which brings us to a note on the eligibility whether to submit to both solicitations.

Alejandro Suarez: The eligibility restrictions on NSF 21 dash 555 and NSF 21 dash 556 are independent from each other. For example, an organization or API could if desired. Apply to NSF 21 dash 555 within its eligibility restrictions and also apply to NSF dash 556 within its eligibility restrictions.

Alejandro Suarez: So I'd like to take a moment to talk about the award process should your proposal be awarded any awards made for NSF 21 dash 555 and then SF 21 dash 556 are expected to be via cooperative agreements.

Alejandro Suarez: These cooperative agreements will include additional reporting requirements to be negotiated with the institution prior to award, they will be incorporated into a special terms and conditions of the award itself.

Alejandro Suarez: So now just going over a quick summary. The deadline for NSF 21 dash 555 and NSF 21 dash 556 is June 16 2021 pay careful attention to the eligibility information on each solicitation.

Alejandro Suarez: Also note that specific sections are required as part of the project description and you can find more information on that in the proposal preparation instructions.

Alejandro Suarez: The word tracks for NSF 21 dash 555 are meant to be independently managed yet tightly

Alejandro Suarez: The CEO.

Alejandro Suarez: NSF 21 dash 556 is meant to provide support for governance communications among access awardees and the public and not overall management of access.
Alejandro Suarez: And of course solicitation specific review criteria apply mainly in connection with the relevant activities that we discussed in the previous slides.

Alejandro Suarez: So we will be moving to our Q AMP a section shortly.

Alejandro Suarez: Please use the Q AMP a function in zoom to submit your questions. We may not. We may not be able to get to all of them in the session.

Alejandro Suarez: But we will make sure to take your questions into account as we plan anticipated follow up materials to be available, including a recording of this webinar.

Alejandro Suarez: If your question was not addressed, please feel free to send us your question via email, and we will have contact information in a future slide.

Alejandro Suarez: What I will do now is go through a few frequently asked questions before we open it up to questions from the community.

Alejandro Suarez: So one frequently asked question is what is the anticipated start date for awards made by NSF 21 dash 555 and NSF 21 dash 556

Alejandro Suarez: The awards for these solicitations are expected to be made in F ly 2022 subject to the outcome of proposal reviews and availability of funds.

Alejandro Suarez: Another question is, what is the expected duration of awards for access tracks and access a CEO. Keep in mind that the anticipated duration for awards made by both solicitations is a duration of five years.

Alejandro Suarez: Or renewals possible for awards made by NSF 21 dash 555 and NSF 21 dash 556 so this would be after the initial five years of the award.

Alejandro Suarez: Yes, they are possible for each award made an NSF 21 dash 555 and 2521 dash 556 there's a possibility of renewal award contingent upon availability of funds successful evaluation of the awardees performance and NSF merit review of a renewal proposal.
Alejandro Suarez: Another question is, can I or my institution apply to both NSF 21-555 and NSF 21-556?

Alejandro Suarez: Yes, eligibility information on both of these solicitations are independent from each other, hence an institution can submit and or an individual may be on one proposal to NSF 21-555 and one proposal to NSF 21-556.

Alejandro Suarez: Another question that has come up is if my institution does not qualify as an institute of higher education with my institution be able to participate in NSF 21-556?

Alejandro Suarez: Yes, there are opportunities for an organization that is not an IHG to participate as set forth in the solicitations.

Alejandro Suarez: Organizations that do not qualify as an IHG may not apply as the submitting organization to NSF 21-555 or NSF 21-556.

Alejandro Suarez: Partnerships between an IHG and certain other organizations are allowed, provided that all requirements specified in the NSF PA PG and the solicitations themselves are met.

Alejandro Suarez: Another question we received is I don't see a service provided by the current NSF supported care coordination services landscape in this solicitation or that service continue.

Alejandro Suarez: And to answer that, I should note that the service is currently being solicited are specific to NSF 21-555 and NSF 21-556.

Alejandro Suarez: If you'd like to know more information about NSF vision for the CIA service ecosystem, more broadly,

Alejandro Suarez: You can visit the link to NSF blueprints for a National Cyber Infrastructure ecosystem for science and engineering in the 21st century at the link below and this is the same link that my colleague Dr Minish parish or had shared with you earlier.

Alejandro Suarez: And one last frequently asked question.
Alejandro Suarez: Will do detailed knowledge about existing incumbent activities be required to prepare a successful proposal and the answer to that is no.

Alejandro Suarez: NSF seeks innovative proposals that can drive new thinking and transformative discoveries in all areas of SME research and education.

Alejandro Suarez: Including were applicable, the transition of certain existing activities to the proposal division.

Alejandro Suarez: proposals were be reviewed using the NSP approved merit review criteria, namely intellectual merit and broader impacts and respective solicitation specific review criteria.

Alejandro Suarez: The exceed projects and the exceed metrics service X MS project have provided material, including documents labeled transition plans.

Alejandro Suarez: Available on their web presences and the material presented by incumbent Ortiz on their web presences are the views of the awardees and do not necessarily reflect those of the NSF

Alejandro Suarez: So now we will move on to questions submitted by the community. And I think we have a few queued up here and I will be

Alejandro Suarez: Joined by my colleague, Robert Chadwick and some other colleagues for assistance in answering

Alejandro Suarez: Questions from the audience.

Robert Chadduck: Thank you. Well,

Robert Chadduck: thank each of you all know this afternoon, or in the case of the West Coast this morning for your interest in the privilege of your time this afternoon. This is our. This is our privilege to continue to work closely with you all. Now you have our first question.
Alejandro Suarez: Sure so well. One, one of them. I think we may have covered which someone had asked what is the anticipated start date for these awards and for providing these services to the community. So as much as we can share right now is we're expected to make these awards in

Subject to availability of funds.

Another question has come in.

Will cybersecurity be included funded during the construction phase in order to ensure secure architecture and development of systems that are more affordably and effectively secured in production.

Bob, do you want to handle that.

Contribute to drive new thinking and the transformative discoveries really how you see yourselves, you know, in that model, including in the context of cyber security.

Is again is how you see yourself. So in that respect. You know, you know, the whole aspect of the continuing significance and and and prominence of cyber security is recognized.

Robert Chadduck: Thank you. Well,

Alejandro Suarez: Thank you, but

So another question has come in asking what mechanisms have been envisioned to fund actual work for advanced user support via the entities that will be assembled via the CSS n in track to
Robert Chadduck: And value placed and again innovative proposals, this is also again in the same manner is the aspect of how you see yourself and your visions.

Robert Chadduck: being responsive to the CSS and you know proposal type. It's also the aspect of it you know in this question is really also the the aspect that the

Robert Chadduck: The definitive resource contributing to the consent of the proposals 21 triple five and 21 double. Five. Six. You are the are the solicitations themselves.

Robert Chadduck: So as you as you as you think of this and how you view yourself. Those are. That's your primary resource in presenting your vision going forward. So again, thank you. And thank you for the question.

Alejandro Suarez: Thank you bought

Alejandro Suarez: So we're waiting on a few more questions here.

Alejandro Suarez: So one question has come in. Asking can I submit to just the innovative pilots portion of track one

Alejandro Suarez: Wish to answer that, Bob.

Robert Chadduck: Know, again, thank you. Thank you for your interest, you know, the, the, the other tracks are purposefully

Robert Chadduck: Defined, you know, provide what is the the the service in response to NSF requirements so that you know the aspect of how any proposal would be would be presented NBA wind is being responsive to all the requirements of a given track.

Robert Chadduck: You know, is really also the sense of, like, once again, how you see yourself.
Robert Chadduck: Responding to all the requirements specified for an entire track. So again, thank you for your interest in your question.

Alejandro Suarez: So we have one question that has asked are there additional opportunities for minority serving Institute's to grow and train diverse workforce Minish, would you like to

Manish Parashar: Sure. So I answered by saying that addressing diversity, both in the project, but more importantly in the community is an essential aspect of every track in the solicitation and we

Manish Parashar: Encourage the responses to address those aspects.

Alejandro Suarez: Thank you. Manish

Alejandro Suarez: We're having a few more questions come in, give us one moment.

Alejandro Suarez: We have A question asking as

Alejandro Suarez: The CEO proposer so for the Coordination Office proposer expected to fund efforts of the executive council members or the executive council members must budget their effort for coordination in their own service proposals.

Alejandro Suarez: So I think the answer to that question is we specify that in the solicitation. So, it is up to you how you wish to interpret what we've laid forth in the solicitation text.
Alejandro Suarez: Are just making sure we connect the connector questions to the to our best answer. So give us one moment.

00:56:05.310 --> 00:56:06.900
Alejandro Suarez: So someone had asked

00:56:08.520 --> 00:56:09.120
Alejandro Suarez: This one moment.

00:56:29.280 --> 00:56:42.060
Alejandro Suarez: So someone had asked, how do you envision the integration of multiple tracks in SF 21 dash 555 and 21 dash 556 finish, please.

00:56:43.530 --> 00:56:44.160
Alejandro Suarez: Please go ahead.

00:56:49.800 --> 00:57:11.190
Manish Parashar: So,

00:57:13.050 --> 00:57:13.590
Alejandro Suarez: Thank you money.

00:57:37.170 --> 00:57:48.090
Alejandro Suarez: I think we had a couple questions that came in asking about specific activities that are currently funded by incumbent awards and I can go back

00:57:49.500 --> 00:57:58.080
Alejandro Suarez: Quickly to this is one of our frequently asked questions about if you don't see a service provided by the current

00:57:59.370 --> 00:58:17.970
Alejandro Suarez: Coordination landscape in these solicitations, the answer is we're looking for what specifically in an SF 21 dash 555 or an SF 21 dash 556 and if you're interested in an SMS greater vision for the ecosystem, more broadly, you can take a look at the blueprint documents.

00:59:33.750 --> 00:59:43.620
Alejandro Suarez: So one question we've received is new and innovative CI systems combine hardware and software technologies that are new to the CI ecosystem and new translation for production.
Alejandro Suarez: Should track five proposed to contribute to along with CI system awardees and track three the translation of first of a kind. Hardware technologies to production.

Alejandro Suarez: IE is track five involved in translating integrating new and innovative hardware CI systems with accompanying software technologies to production.

Manish Parashar: Sure. So we look at technology partly and and we're looking for your best ideas on how we can translate technology to impact science moving forward.

Manish Parashar: Looking for your most innovative and best ideas. How could we realize this technology translation service that can have the greatest impact on science moving forward.

Alejandro Suarez: Thank you Minish

Alejandro Suarez: So thank you for your patience as we see what other questions come in.

Alejandro Suarez: Give us one second.

Alejandro Suarez: As we ensure we get the right answer.

Alejandro Suarez: To any questions still coming in.

Alejandro Suarez: That has come in asks that in attract to allocation utilization assistance. What is meant by dedicated circumscribed staff staff and the solicitation text.
Alejandro Suarez: You're responsible for coming up with innovative solutions that respond to this and other guidance in the solicitation. So you that's, that's how you should

Alejandro Suarez: You should take that text.

Alejandro Suarez: Still reading through your questions. So thank you for your patience.

Alejandro Suarez: So one question received as how do, how would one describe an end user in terms of skill level and novice advanced, etc.

Alejandro Suarez: I think we're, we're looking for innovative proposals from from the community for their interpretation of end users. I think specific to the CI supported research community or the NSF supported CI research community. So, that is how you wish to interpret the solicitation text.

Alejandro Suarez: One other question received

Alejandro Suarez: Someone have asked that the track five pilot development and production phases are sequential representing a trial translation process file by production translation process and not

Alejandro Suarez: Active for the entire world to translate technologies. The first interpretation is correct, the solicitation is looking for a pilot slash development phase of the translation activity and a production phase of the translation activity.

Alejandro Suarez: So Minish I think you may have more to say on the definition of end users to keep me straight

Manish Parashar: Sure. L. So I think we we interpret are the end users as a US research community that leverages the resources to at science and engineering.

Alright.

Manish Parashar: 01:10:45.330 --> 01:10:45.660

Alright.

Manish Parashar: 01:11:21.060 --> 01:11:39.600
Alejandro Suarez: So one question submitted is are the various access tracks and the overall coordination going to serve and coordinate national CI resources from n car and other FF Rd CS Bob, would you like to answer that question.

01:11:44.220 --> 01:11:56.040
Robert Chadduck: No thank you. And thank you for the questions. I think if you look at the again the the you know the the solicitation itself, you know, the definitive resource and contribution.

01:11:57.060 --> 01:11:57.810
Robert Chadduck: To to

01:11:59.370 --> 01:12:06.420
Robert Chadduck: To that issue was really in the solicitation itself. The other thing I would draw attention to specifically in the, you know, in the context of

01:12:07.020 --> 01:12:17.040
Robert Chadduck: You know, NSF awardees are always you know fully encouraged to follow up with their cognizant program officers, you know, in association.

01:12:17.550 --> 01:12:25.050
Robert Chadduck: With any questions that may emerge, you know, for some of you, all that may be me. In which case, you know, I welcome a chance for us to talk

01:12:25.530 --> 01:12:35.640
Robert Chadduck: Further, and another time, but across the again the the you know the NSF awardees you know that's an appropriate follow up to the discussion this afternoon. So thank you.

01:12:37.740 --> 01:12:38.760
Alejandro Suarez: Thank you for that one.

01:14:35.250 --> 01:14:37.590
Alejandro Suarez: So one question received

01:14:41.220 --> 01:14:52.410
Alejandro Suarez: Has asked, will the awardees of the user track specifically be specifically discouraged from assisting users from other resources than those funded as part of the exceed program.

01:14:52.830 --> 01:15:00.480
Alejandro Suarez: For example, is there an opportunity to provide support to those infrastructures plus other regional clusters.

01:15:01.050 --> 01:15:14.250
Alejandro Suarez: And I think the best way to look at this is we're looking for proposals to develop innovative solutions in response to the the text laid out in the solicitation and the user track.
Alejandro Suarez: And Bob, I don't know if you wish to have additional context there.

Robert Chadduck: Now, that's correct out what is really the senses that, you know, we go back to being, as you know, the aspect that

Robert Chadduck: You know, the definitive resource for interpretation of the solicitation is the solicitation itself. You know, so what Allah shared with you, that is that is the correct response.

Alejandro Suarez: Thank you.

Alejandro Suarez: One question received

Alejandro Suarez: Is will a CEO define the authentication mechanism to be used by the access portal, or the other way.

Alejandro Suarez: I think the important piece here is looking at the solicitation text laying out the five independently managed service tracks and the CEO and its executive council.

Alejandro Suarez: So this is up to whoever will be responding, how they wish to interpret and propose their use of any authentication mechanism, per the terms of the solicitation, Bob, would you like to add anything to that.

Robert Chadduck: No, again, that that's again correct out the what it really comes back to being is how you keep the any proposal and your and your interests contributing to achieve the requirements specified in the

Robert Chadduck: 556 solicitation. So we're coming back to being is making your case. So again, thank you all.

Alejandro Suarez: Thank you, Bob.

Alejandro Suarez: So we've received another question that has asked on access NSF calls for proposals for five independently managed yet tightly cooperative service tracks.
Alejandro Suarez: Are you encouraging every site submits a coordinated set of proposals API's who submit proposals to access work coordinate together and support each other.

Alejandro Suarez: Minish, would you like to comment on this question.

Manish Parashar: I'm sure as a question rightly said, it's the deployed services that the successful proposals will lead to that those will be tightly coordinated or it's not the proposals, but it's the services that would be tightly coordinated.

Alejandro Suarez: Thank you, Minister.

Alejandro Suarez: So one question received is track five has a rather expansive view of technologies that may be candidates for translation.

Alejandro Suarez: And for that, we, we urge you to take a look at the solicitation text and what is expected in track five especially along what is to be proposed in the translation pipeline.

Alejandro Suarez: Thank you for your question.

Alejandro Suarez: Last question, or to give us one moment.

Alejandro Suarez: So one question asks, Does this solicitation include all NSF funded CI, for example, test beds, as well as computation resources.

Alejandro Suarez: For that, we urge you to look into the specific tracks and what stakeholders are expected for each tracks, including, where appropriate, the proposer may wish to propose to relevant resources that they they deem are important and
Alejandro Suarez: Bob, I don't know if you have more to add on that question.

Robert Chadduck: And thank you all again thank you for your again for your question. This is also again in the sense of, you know, NSF awardees are always encouraged to

Robert Chadduck: To follow up with their with their respective cognisant program officers, you know, including in response to any questions that come up. So again, thank you. Thank you.

Alejandro Suarez: Thank you.

Alejandro Suarez: We have one last question here.

Alejandro Suarez: It's asking, How should I propose or handle their dependency on other service tracks, a time of submission is unknown, which are the dependencies may actually be available. How was NSF expecting to fill the gaps that emerge.

Alejandro Suarez: And to answer that, again, pointing to the solicitation texts and SF 21 dash 555 for the service tracks themselves.

Alejandro Suarez: Expects to fund five awards for five independently managed yet totally cooperative services. So with regards to those dependencies.

Alejandro Suarez: The a co funded by NSF 21 dash 556 and the executive council there in will allow for a path towards the interoperability and or standardization of interfaces between tracks and stakeholders throughout the transition period and beyond.

Alejandro Suarez: So thank you for your, your question.

Alejandro Suarez: So we've received some questions about transition from in content services and transition periods and data available from incumbent awardees and and for that I'm just going to point you to our last FAQ
question that we went over here which is looking at what we're looking for in the proposals to

Alejandro Suarez: Either solicitation and how we will be reviewing them based on the merit review criteria.

Alejandro Suarez: And solicitation specific review criteria so detailed knowledge about existing and coming activities will not be required to prepare a successful proposal and regarding transition activities Manish, would you like to comment on that.

Manish Parashar: NSF is going to make every effort possible to minimize impact on the science community doing any transitions that might need to happen.

Alejandro Suarez: Thank you Minish.

Alejandro Suarez: So we've reached our end time here.

Alejandro Suarez: As a reminder, a recording of this webinar will be available at the event page for this event. You can find the link to that at this short web link here.

Alejandro Suarez: If you have any further questions. The cognisant program director information for Bob and myself are here on the slide. So we always welcome questions from the community and I will hand off to my colleague Minish Paris and other NSF always see management for final notes.

Manish Parashar: Thank you, l and and Bob for the tremendous job and thank you.
Manish Parashar: To all of you for being part of this webinar and for your interest in this program. As always, we look for your best ideas moving forward to that.

Manish Parashar: To really implement our vision for this cyber infrastructure ecosystem to democratize access to our resources and to enable

The Science and Engineering Research and Education that we all committed to doing so thank you once again and we look forward to your responses to the sort of stations.

Alejandro Suarez: Thank you. Manish. So this concludes the Access Program webinar.