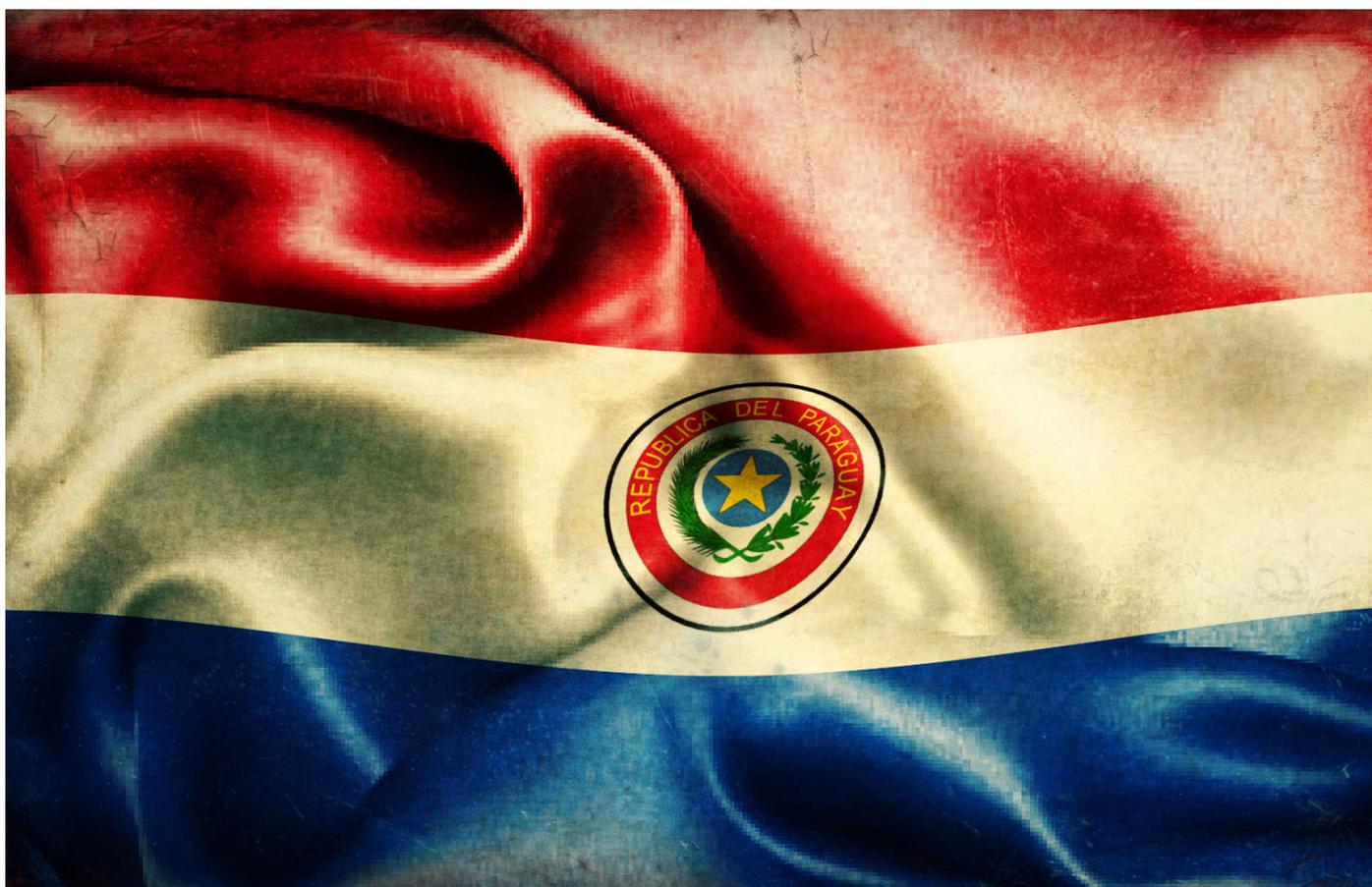


DECLARA

Bulletin

Year 12



Paraguay concretes its connection to RedCLARA

MAGIC had a great collaboration experience at TNC16 and IST Africa 2016

Jussara Issa Musse, president of TICAL2016's Programme Committee: "Join us, because we are preparing a nice surprise"

Ernesto Chinkes: "I'm sure that everybody will be welcomed, and that it's going to be an unforgettable event"

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RedCLARA:

A clear path for your data

We empower your research and developments

RedCLARA interconnects the national advanced networks in Latin America and connects them with all the networks in the world, giving Latin-American scientists, academics and researchers an infrastructure that allows them to effectively collaborate with the global scientific community..

Edición

María José López Pourailly

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Traducción al portugués

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Carlos Casaus

President of RedCLARA's Board of
Directors
CUDI's Executive Director

This letter was written for the
RedCLARA's 2015 Annual Report

2015 was not a good year for Latin America. According to CEPAL, we had a decrease of 0.4% in the economic activity in the region. Prices of energy, minerals and agricultural products have fallen significantly. This caused some problems in the balance of payments and public accounts, which resulted in loss of values and budget cuts. The bad economic situation did also translate into a political crises in several countries in our region.

However, our association navigated well in these turbulent conditions. For us, 2015 was a year of consolidation and achievements.

In the context of the regional situation, it seems very important to highlight the financial consolidation of CLARA. Thanks to the commitment of our members, we now have a solid floor of entries that allowed our association to face the inevitable problems that many of our partners go through from time to time. Our operation resulted in positive financial outcomes and in an increase in our reserves.

The strategy of acquiring fiber assets in the region proved to be hugely correct, since, in exchange for capital investments, we reduced operating costs and ceased to be subject of sudden variations caused by inflation, increases in demand or exchange of the parity of our coins.



Editorial

This strategy has quadrupled the capacity of our network backbone and made our quotas no longer vary depending on the bandwidth consumed by each national network.

The reliability of the financial and administrative capacity of our organization allowed the approval of the submarine cable project that will connect Latin America to Europe, called BELLA (Building Europe Link to Latin America). CLARA was a major boost in this project, that should begin in 2016.

The institutional development of our association also allowed the approval, by the European Commission, of the MAGIC project (Middleware for Collaborative Applications and Virtual Global Communities). In this unprecedented project, CLARA leads over 20 organizations from five continents with a view to adopt technologies that will facilitate collaboration and the formation of virtual communities.

TICAL has evolved as the main ICT conference for higher education institutions in Latin America. TICAL2015 was held in Viña del Mar, Chile, with the participation of 360 people.

We continue consolidating projects such as LA Referencia, TANDEM and Colaboratorio, and improving our services and collaboration tools capacities and performance, VC Espresso and

eNVIO, among others, and of the work of our operating (NOC CLARA) and engineering (NEG CLARA) groups.

As the President of the Directory, it was a source of great pleasure and pride to be part of these efforts.

Check out RedCLARA's 2015 Annual Report

María José López Pourailly

How far did the Latin American Cooperation of Advanced Networks reach last year and what was the outcome of that yearly transitted road. Get this information by reviewing its 2015 Annual Report.

In its 64 pages, the document depicts, among other issues, the institutional aspects of the organization, advances in the RedCLARA infrastructure, value-added services, its participation in international initiatives and its balance.

Download Memory 2015 RedCLARA from: <http://www.redclara.net/index.php/somos/sobre-redclara/memorias-anuales>





Paraguay concretes its connection to RedCLARA

During June 20, in Asuncion, and counting on the presence of the Paraguayan President, Horacio Cartes, the Minister of the National Secretariat of Information and Communication Technologies (Senatics), David Ocampos, of executive authorities and researchers, and of Eduardo Grizendi, member of RedCLARA's Board and Director of Engineering and Operations of RNP, the Paraguayan academic network, ARANDU, was reopened and celebrated its connection to RedCLARA.

RedCLARA

The Paraguayan connection to the Latin American Cooperation of Advanced Networks (CLARA) has been expected for many years and it is the result of a work that started during the ALICE project and continued in ALICE2; it has always been one of the persistent aims of RedCLARA. The connection is through the National Research and Education Network, ARANDU, and allows the country to access to a powerful infrastructure for high performance research, development, innovation and education.

The minister David Ocampos celebrated the connection to the advanced Latin American network: "From now on, a Paraguayan researcher can take part in any of the thousands of projects calls that are opened worldwide and be part of research teams that include scientists from different countries. Also, by the connection to RedCLARA, researchers can make real their designs and prototypes, using all the resources available worldwide, such as simulators, supercomputers, etc".

The Executive Director of RedCLARA, Florencio Utreras, send a video greeting where he stated: "Today we managed to connect Paraguay, which is a victory for many people. I'm happy because we can integrate the country to the collaboration of our organization activities because RedCLARA is a collaborative network that favors the development of collaborative projects



between researchers, between universities, including research centers, throughout the region and, from it, to the entire world".

The relaunch event of the Paraguayan academic network and its connection to RedCLARA was organized by SENATICs, CONACYT and ITAIPU Binational, with the support of the National University, the Association of Private Universities and COPACO.



Jussara Issa Musse, president of TICAL2016's Programme Committee

“Join us, because we are preparing a nice surprise”

Brazil and Argentina are rivals in sports, but in regard to TICAL2016 the tone of the two countries is the one of collaboration. At the Conference this year, which will be held between September 13 and 15, in Buenos Aires, it was given to a Brazilian the responsibility to lead the Programme Committee. She is Jussara Issa Musse, IT Director of the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul. In this conversation, Musse comments the choice of Buenos Aires to host the Conference, talks about her expectations for the event and warns on the need to make the regional collaboration happen. "We need to get out of our comfort zone, look out and participate", she emphasizes.

Luiz Alberto Rasseli

In few words, who is the President of TICAL2016 Programme Committee?

I'm Jussara Issa Musse, Brazilian and Director of IT at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS). I am in this role since 1996. I'm part of the generation that saw the transformation of data processing in information technology, the arrival of the Internet and the social networks. I have a degree in Electrical Engineering and started working on developing hardware; then I migrated to the area of networks and support before becoming a director.

What can we expect of the papers and the programme of TICAL2016? And how do you evaluate Buenos Aires as the host city?

We can expect a lot of quality. Every year TICAL grows in importance and the participation of universities is expanded. For example, Brazil always had a very timid participation, but in 2015 there was a big Brazilian presence. It is happening because of the rich experience that means to participate in a meeting such as TICAL. This year we have one more attractive reason, which is Buenos Aires: a cultural center and a beautiful city, easily accessible, with great bookstores, wines and restaurants.

How do you assess the development of ICT and advanced networks in recent years? And what was the importance of TICAL in this process?

Teaching, research and management are becoming more and more dependent on ICT. And that drives to its development and update, for the University life, its students and researchers, is irrigated by it. The advanced networks are obviously inserted in this context. So TICAL has been an important factor to show the diversity of the performance of IT departments within the institutions and the reports of innovative and challenging experiences for all of us. Another very important aspect of the conference is the dissemination of the debate on IT management and governance. These subjects were inserted on the agenda of all directors.

TICAL seeks, among other things, to foster the ICT collaboration among Latin American countries. In your opinion, what are the main challenges and opportunities we have to achieve to reach a satisfactory level of cooperation between the institutions of our region?

The participation in previous conferences showed that problems and difficulties are similar in all our universities. There are many,



many, possibilities for cooperation. Why is it difficult to occur? This question is always with me. What prevents us to collaborate? I understand that the challenge is in the people; we are immersed in the daily lives of our institutions and we are consumed doing it. We need to get out of our comfort zone, look out and participate. The collaboration will only happen if we make it happen.

Could you please send a message to those interested in participating in the Conference? Why should they do it?

We want all colleagues to participate in TICAL to expand their network of relationships, meet new experiences and enjoy the city of Buenos Aires. Join us, because we are preparing a nice surprise

TICAL2016

September 13, 14 and 15, 2016
Buenos Aires (Argentina)

Goldcenter, Av. Cantilo Y G , 142

Web Site: <http://tical2016.redclara.net/>



Join the Regional Study on the incorporation of ICT in Higher Education

Knowing the state of the incorporation of Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) in higher education as well as the trends and challenges faced by the institutions: this is the objective of the Regional Study on the incorporation of ICT in Higher Education, launched by RedCLARA last April 7th, during the thematic meeting on Advanced Analytics in Education.

María José López Pourailly

The study will be conducted through a survey, already available in <http://encuestas.redclara.net/index.php?sid=49164&lang=es>, Teachers, ICT responsables and authorities of all universities members of the National Networks for Research and Education connected to RedCLARA are invited to attend. The results of the study will be presented at the Conference TICAL2016 and will be available to all those who participated in the survey, which will allow them to know the initiatives of other universities in their country and their peers in the region.

The study is an initiative of RedCLARA along with Community of ICT INNOVACION, supported by Microsoft. The idea is to get this data from a vision that addresses the different aspects involved in these processes at the institutional level, in order to contribute to the advancement of this initiative in the institutions of the continent.

Answer the survey at: <http://encuestas.redclara.net/index.php?sid=49164&lang=es>





Ernesto Chinkes:

“I'm sure that everybody will be welcomed, and that it's going to be an unforgettable event”

The Argentine Ernesto Chinkes is one of the most important actors in the development of TICAL in recent years and knows the Conference as few figures. He has been the Chairman of its Program Committee in three consecutive years, and this year was named Honorary President. In 2016, however, the meeting will have a special taste for him. It is the first time that TICAL is carried out in Argentina. In this interview, Chinkes tells us a little about his expectations, on how institutions are preparing for the event and leaves a message to encourage the participation of Latin Americans.

Luiz Alberto Rasseli

Panama, Peru, Colombia, Mexico, Chile; after five years and five different locations, TICAL finally came to Argentina. As one of the hosts of the Conference, what are your expectations for the event?

My expectation is to maximize the possibilities offered by this event; actively participate in conferences, listening and thinking critically about the experiences of my colleagues from different universities in the region, as well as other global institutions initiatives presented in TICAL. Being Argentina the venue this year, it gives me a special sense; we hope to involve the vast majority of higher education institutions of my country and other relevant actors to help promote ICT policies that our universities need in this century.

How are the Higher Education institutions in Argentina preparing for the Conference?

There is much enthusiasm! Several universities that regularly participate in the Conference are commenting to others on the relevance of participating in it. The ones who participated in recent years became enthusiastic participants and disseminators of the

next editions. Every year, the only question is the date and the city where it will take place. This year, we have been chatting with the rest of the ICT responsables in order to motivate those who have never participated before, so I understand that participation will be massive. On the other hand, the National Interuniversity Council, which brings together the rectors of the National Universities, is also supporting the event.

Since the last edition of TICAL in Chile, how do you evaluate the development of the ICT community in Latin America and what has been the role of TICAL and its community in this process?

The TICAL community is a very powerful network that allows us to have an area to raise collaborative initiatives, contacts for assistance, scenarios to reflect and build projects or ideas, and is also an important network of contacts. I understand that we didn't exploit its full potential, but without any doubts, it is an asset that we count on. Clearly, the TICAL Conference is the beacon that illuminates and the engine that incentives it.



TICAL seeks, among other things, promoting ICT collaboration between institutions and researchers in our region. What, in your opinion, are the main challenges and opportunities to achieve that?

ICT in universities are not an end in itself, but an exceptional means to promote strategies and initiatives to achieve the objectives of teaching, research and extension. That is why in TICAL we seek to listen to experiences and solutions provided by others ICT responsables. Of course, it is interesting to involve the end users of these solutions, such as researchers or teachers; it allows us to get a very powerful feedback, but the challenge is to achieve this without neglecting the focus of the event, that are the ICT areas.

Give us a message for those who wish to participate in TICAL2016. Why should they go to Buenos Aires?

I think they should come, because TICAL is an experience worth living, and each edition is unique. I always say that one becomes different after TICAL; we grow in knowledge and human relationships. Of course I hope people will have the opportunity to know and enjoy this great city, which is Buenos Aires, and also, if possible, to know our beautiful country. I'm sure that everybody will be welcomed and that it's going to be an unforgettable event.

MAGIC had a great collaboration experience at TNC16 and IST Africa 2016

By means of the MAGIC + Sci-GaIA + TANDEM: Towards Sustainable e-Infrastructures session, held during the second day of TNC16 (12-16 June 2016, Prague, Czech Republic), and of its presence at GÉANT's booth, the MAGIC Project had a very important visibility in this relevant conference, the one that gathers all the Pan-European NRENs leaders and their worldwide peers with the research and also the industry communitities. Previously, from May 10 to 13, in Durban, South Africa, the Commuitties work group developed a workshop in which explained what the Global Science Communitities are and how to become part of them.

María José López Pourailly

During its session, the EC funded MAGIC, Sci-GaIA and TANDEM projects join forces to promote the cross-border collaboration which is needed to develop global research infrastructures for 2020 and beyond. The three projects showcased the development and operation of research e-infrastructures in the different world regions covered by them, introducing their approaches on these issues and stimulating the discussion about the benefits of developing new world class research e-Infrastructures for the R&D communities.

If you couldn't attend the Conference and this particular session, you can check out the video recorded during it at: <https://tnc16.geant.org/web/media/archive/7A>.

The presentations given within this session can be downloaded at: <https://tnc16.geant.org/core/session/79>.

Thanks to the collaboration of GÉANT, MAGIC also had the chance of enhancing its outreach by means of its dissemination slots at GÉANT's booth, where the project's benefits where shared with the visitors as well as the projects dissemination brochures and goodies.



Simon Taylor (SciGaIA), Tom Fryer (MAGIC), Omo Oaiya (TANDEM), Brook Schofield (MAGIC).

IST Africa 2016

The workshop “Global Science communities, that’s MAGIC!” included the participation of Tiwonge Msulira Banda from Ubuntunet Alliance (Malawi), Colleen Wint-Bond, Caribbean Knowledge and Learning Network Agency, CKLN (Jamaica) and Tania Altamirano, from the Latin American Cooperation of Advanced Networks, RedCLARA (Chile).

During the two hours session researchers and academics had the opportunity to know about the Global Science Communities developed in priority areas: Biodiversity, e-Health, Environment and Remote Instrumentation and to be part of a demonstration on the use of the tools offered by the collaborative platform Colaboratorio.

“This was a outstanding opportunity to present the work developed with the communities and to invite people to join them. The real success of the communities is the active

participation of people from different regions to share their good practices, to create links with partners and to find answers to common problems from others experiences from around the world”, stated Altamirano.

Be part of the communities:

- Register and do log in in Colaboratorio: <http://colaboratorio.redclara.net/>

- Join the communities and collaborate!



Colleen Wint-Bond, Tiwonge Msulira Banda, Tania Altamirano, Omo Oaiya.



G7 ICT Ministers' meeting highlights importance of NRENs and GÉANT

At the recent G7 ICT Ministers' meeting held in Kagawa, Japan (the first such meeting the G7 group has held in nearly 20 years) strong and clear recognition was made of the importance of national research and education networks (NRENs) and of the global networking of the research and education community.

GÉANT

The G7 ICT Ministers' meeting is part of a series of meetings taking place across Japan in April and May. It brought together the ICT Ministers representing the G7 countries of USA, UK, Japan, France, Italy, Canada, and Germany; plus the European Union, addressing the themes of:

Innovation and economic growth

Unrestricted flow of information, and ensuring the safety and security in cyberspace

Contributing to the resolution of global issues

International understanding and international cooperation in the future

The outcome of the meeting was the issuing of a Joint Declaration signed by Vice President Ansip for the Digital Single Market on the European Commission that focused on three main areas: recognition of a digitally connected world; commitment to mutual goals; and the reaffirming of a multi-stakeholder model for governance issues facing the deployment, development and evolution of the global internet.

In particular, the Joint Declaration states:

"We recognize the importance of development, interconnection and utilization of national research and education networks as

providing an open infrastructure for education, research and development purposes that also serve to enhance connectivity around the world."

A separate document was attached to the Joint Declaration, "Opportunities for Collaboration", which aims to "strengthen international cooperation and collaboration" to help achieve those actions mentioned in the Joint Declaration. It states:

"The European Union welcomes continued collaboration on GÉANT, which aims to network the research and education community globally via extensive global partnership."

This recognition of the importance of NRENs and of the central role of GÉANT is welcomed. Together, GÉANT and our 38 NREN partners interconnect over 50 million users across 10,000 institutions throughout Europe, and connect Europe to an additional 60+ countries worldwide.

This networking of the community is vital to accelerating science, enriching education and driving innovation and the GÉANT community is extremely proud to be part of this.

Telecommunication Day recognition is awarded to Florencio Utreras

The Undersecretariat of Telecommunications of Chile (SUBTEL) created in 2015 the "Telecommunication Day Recognition " to honor important people for their contribution and work in the development of this important area of the technology.

REUNA e SUBTEL - Chile



This distinction is given on the occasion of the "International Day of Telecommunications and Information Society". In 2015, the award was presented for the first time and given to José Miguel Piquer, from NIC Chile.

In 2016, the award was handed to Florencio Utreras, Mathematical Engineer at the University of Chile and PhD in Engineering by the University of Grenoble (France). Utreras has been a major actor in the development of the Internet and academic networks in Latin America for more than two decades. Between 1994 and 2004, he was executive director of the National Research and Academic Network of Chile (REUNA). During this time, Utreras played a key role in connecting Chile to the global computer networks. This process had its major milestone in 2000, when the country became the first South American country to connect to Internet2, the academic network of the United States. At the same

time, he worked as professor of applied mathematics in Chile and as a visiting scholar at universities and research centers in France, Italy and the United States. He is currently the Executive Director of RedCLARA, the network of Advanced Internet in Latin America.

Telecommunications Day

The "International Day of Telecommunications and Information Society" (DMTSI) aims to raise awareness on the use of the Internet and on what other information and communications

technologies can help society and the economy, as well as its importance in reducing the digital divide.

The date for this celebration was established in November 2006, when the Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) decided to celebrate it, in order to stimulate reflection and exchange of ideas on various communications-related issues and technologies.



Colombia: RENATA launched in June its 100 Gbps network

"The best way to celebrate the birthday of RENATA is offering to the academic community a better network infrastructure with better service accompanying the appropriation of services. In July, we will finish 100% of the implementation of the new network infrastructure with which Colombia will enter the top 10 of the NREN -National Research and Education Network - in the planet", says Lucas Giraldo Rios, Executive Director of RENATA

RENATA

There are nine years that RENATA is in the service of the National System of Science, Technology and Innovation (SNCTI) of Colombia and to celebrate, it launched the last week of June its new infrastructure.

The new model will count, from July 2016, with 100 Gbps links between the 27 nodes - were 9, previously - that form the national backbone, destined for the coordination and exchange of information between the institutions of the SNCTI.

For Rios, "the 19,000 kilometers of dark fiber that will illuminate RENATA, after several years of strategic strengthening, technology management with its Academic Regional Networks for scientific development in Colombia, the alignment with the Ministry of ICT, the Ministry of National Education and Colciencias, and monitoring the scholars and scientists of the country, represent major challenges associated with scientific work that our researchers can accomplish with the tools on the Internet infrastructure."

The definition of the new infrastructure model begun with the strategic planning of RENATA in February 2014. From this planning, officials rewrote the mission, vision and pillars from which RENATA managed, with the Ministry of ICT, the resources that will allow the start of implementation of one of the most robust national research and education networks in the world.

According to Carlos Ramirez, IT Director of RENATA, "since November of 2015, we are working on growing our network to offer the country a fiber superstructure that will brighten the work in science, technology, innovation, education and culture, infrastructure with which the SNCTI of Colombia will continue to improve the levels of productivity, efficiency and competitiveness of the country".

From July, RENATA will have a core composed of 27 nodes in Bogotá, Bucaramanga, Barranquilla, Medellín, Cali, Cúcuta, Valledupar, Santa Marta, Cartagena, Sincelejo, Montería, Manizales, Pereira, Armenia, Ibagué, Neiva, Popayán Pasture Ipiales, Villavicencio, Tunja, Chia, Fusagasugá, San Gil, Ocaña and Riohacha, allowing the network to provide connectivity to institutions located in cities near the nodes previously established.

With three international outputs, two in Barranquilla and one in Bogotá, RENATA infrastructure will continue to integrate the actors of SNCTI to each other and with the world through RedCLARA, the continental network that aims to strengthen the development of science, education, culture and innovation in Latin America - Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Uruguay and Venezuela - through the innovative use of advanced networks.

AGENDA 2016

July

27-29 | Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU)
Conference of University Leaders 2016
Accra, Ghana
<https://www.acu.ac.uk/events/ghana-2016/>

August

1-5 | 42th APAN Meeting
Hong Kong, China
<https://apan.net/meetings/>

8-10 | SAFNOG-3 Meeting
Windhoek, Namibia
<http://www.safnog.org/>

September

13-15 | TICAL2016
Buenos Aires, Argentina
<http://tical2016.redclara.net/>

26-27 | ICT Proposers' Day 2016
Bratislava, Slovakia
<https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/ict-proposers-day-2016>

13 | Publishers for Development 2016
Middlesex, England
<http://www.pubs-for-dev.info/>

28-30 | Digital Infrastructures for Research 2016
Kraków, Poland
<http://www.digitalinfrastructures.eu/>

20-22 | NDN 2016 NORDUnet Conference
Helsinki, Finland
<http://www.nordu.net/>

29-30 | 16th GLIF Annual Global LambdaGrid Workshop
Miami, USA
<https://www.glif.is/meetings/>

25-28 | I2 Technology Exchange 2016
Miami, USA
<http://www.internet2.edu/news-events/events/technology-exchange/>



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