All About CaRCC (... beyond the R-F Track)

The Researcher-Facing Track would like to take the opportunity to start 2021 by pausing, reflecting, and asking "Who are we?" CaRCC has grown and evolved over the past two to three years -- the People Network alone currently has over 900 persons on its mailing list; and the number of working groups has approximately doubled. Many persons within CaRCC and part of the Ecosystem are hard at work "boundary spanning" -- bringing groups together, sharing ideas, and helping both the RCD profession and the research & researchers we support. We will give attendees an overview & update on the organization; highlight some key, example activities and outputs of a couple Working Groups, and conclude with Engagement. This is a great time to invite new colleagues to come and learn about CaRCC, its activities, and how to Get Started or Get Involved!

Presenters: Lauren Michael, Tom Cheatham, Dana Brunson, Patrick Schmitz

Please note that we will record this call and post shortly thereafter on CaRCC's YouTube channel

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Agenda

- Welcome + introduction to CaRCC
  - [Researcher-Facing Track description](#)
  - If you have questions about CaRCC or are interested in becoming more involved, feel free to contact rf-coordinators@carcc.org.
- Topic of the month: [All About CaRCC](#)
  - Presenters:
    - Dana Brunson, Internet2, Executive Director for Research Engagement
    - Tom Cheatham, co-PI &Chair, CaRCC, Professor & Director, CHPC, University of Utah
    - Lauren Michael, Center for High Throughput Computing, University of Wisconsin - Madison; co-PI, People Network co-Coordinator, CaRCC
    - Patrick Schmitz, Founder and Principal Consultant, Semper Cogito
  - Ask questions in the chat or under the notes
- Open Discussion
- Announcements

Announcements

- Upcoming calls
  - February 11, March 11
  - [Choosing from these topics](#)
- PEARC21 Call for Participation: https://pearc.acm.org/pearc21/

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Notes from the Call

108 participants

Notes

CaRCC: volunteers advocating for development of research computing + data (RCD) profession

Main activities:

- People Network: different "tracks" that each host a monthly call; kind of like a yearlong "unconference" for RCD professionals
- Working Groups: more organized groups working in a specific area; finite deliverables, some will wrap up once done; others may continue with a new project
- Interest Groups: Loosely affiliated group with common interest; if a finite deliverable is identified, can turn into a more organized/action-driven working group
- Operations Groups: groups that keep all the above going (currently mainly logistics)

Governance:
- chair, leadership team, collaborating PIs, logistics
- A lot of movement happens in the leadership team, which is composed of Working Group Chairs and People Network Coordinators
- Goal: develop an advisory committee to meet ~quarterly

Professional Development for RCD professionals
- **People Network** - "ongoing virtual conference"
  - Tracks include: Researcher-Facing, Systems-Facing, Data-Facing, Emerging Centers, Strategy/Policy-Facing (in the works)
- **Working Group**: Professionalization
  - RCD job family framework
  - Goal: use framework components yourself, or share with your local HR
- Future work
  - Career Arcs resource
  - There's a RCD professionals census being developed

Institutional Capabilities
- **Working Group:** RCD Capabilities model; assess support for computationally + data intensive research
  - Office Hours each month to help answer questions about completing the Model and using the data from your institution's data

Navigating the RCD ecosystem
- **Working Group:** Ecosystem - working to re-invigorate :) as working on interest group depending on folks interest/capacity
- Communicate resources; identify gaps
- If you're new to this space, how do you get oriented?
- Contact person: Dana Brunson, or this link: https://forms.gle/6pDNV7WzFLAWB3kw8

National Capabilities
- **Interest Group**: Decadal Survey
- Goal: provide community consensus recommendations to government + funding agencies
- Tom Cheatham and Ruth Marinshaw are pushing to get a working group going

Helping people navigate CaRCC!

- **Engagement operations group**: contact Bob/Claire

Get involved:

- There are LOTS of ways to get involved - you can lead something, join an effort, or watch what's going on. All contributions are valuable - our calls will only be diverse and useful if we have people joining and sharing their ideas. https://carcc.org/how-to-join/
- Propose interest/working group
    - On Starting a Working Group (bottom of this page): https://carcc.org/working-groups/
- Join existing interest/working group
    - List here - contact the chair
    - https://carcc.org/working-groups/
    - For the Career Arcs work, visit: https://carcc.org/rcd-professionalization/ and see the links to contact the chairs.
- Join a people network track steering committee (if looking for volunteers)
    - Currently the researcher-facing track is looking for a steering committee co-chair
- Also see Call For Participation below

Questions

- Question about the capabilities model:
    - How does one score the areas in the CaRCC spreadsheet? Would be good to provide some baseline values , or scoring algorithm, or something like that.
        - We consider the community contributed answers as baseline reality. That's one of our main motivations for building the model and encouraging its use.
        - We had 41 contributing institutions, including 30 R1s, which represents nearly a quarter of the US R1 institutions.
    - Note that you can get the public report on the 2020 community data. Here's the link on Zenodo: https://zenodo.org/record/4344057#.YACOrNhKjmF
- In the Ecosystem graph, what do those edges between the nodes indicate?
    - Edges mean connections
- Can someone post the link for the call for participation
    - Ecosystem Working Group (getting involved) https://forms.gle/6pDNV7WzFLAWB3kw8
    - People Network: https://forms.gle/FbA9VvfpEAL67oKHA
    - For the Career Arcs work, visit: https://carcc.org/rcd-professionalization/ and see the links to contact the chairs.
    - General Information on WGs: https://carcc.org/working-groups/
        - Also info on starting a WG

- - - ■ Dive into an WG page and reach out to the Group leaders
    - ○ Other questions, contact Claire, Bob, or get-started@carcc.org or get-involved@carcc.org
- Is there a process for mentoring smaller centers or facilitating their maturing / evolution?
    - ○ Emerging centers is specifically designed for this

Chat Comments

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