



Open Science Grid

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Purpose of the Open Science Grid Consortium

The Open Science Grid Consortium is a consortium of scientific collaborations, scientific computing centers and existing and new grid research and deployment projects, involving both computational and application scientists, working together to provide and support the set of facilities, services and infrastructure needed to provide a persistent national grid infrastructure for large scale US science: the Open Science Grid.

Organizational Structure

The governing bodies of the OSG Consortium are the OSG Council and the OSG Executive Team (The organizational structure is detailed in the [OSG management plan](#))

The **OSG Council** provides the scientific coordination and oversight of OSG activities.

The **Council Chairpersons** are self-elected by the Council to lead the council.

The **Executive Director** is elected by the Council to manage programmatic activities with the help of an Executive Team.

The **Executive Team** is appointed by the Executive Director to direct the OSG program of work (details of the program of work may be found in the [OSG Management Plan](#)¹), draw up policies and represent the OSG Consortium in dealing with other organizations and committees. All appointments to the Executive Team are subject to council approval.

NOTE: Users of and providers to the OSG do not need to be affiliated with OSG member organizations.

¹ <http://osg-docdb.opensciencegrid.org/cgi-bin/ShowDocument?docid=314>

Figure 1 – OSG Consortium Organization

Membership of the Consortium

Consortium Membership occurs through completed registration of a resource, VO, or other organization with the OSG through the Operations Registration process. Consortium Members contribute to and/or benefit directly from the resources, use, operations and/ or other activities. Consortium members recognize that the OSG is a sharing eco-system and strive to maximize the sharing of computing resources, software, and other assets to enable science.

Consortium Partners collaborate with the OSG as peer organizations. Their representatives have ex-officio status on any of the management boards in which they participate. The Executive Team develops agreements with the management of the partner organizations to define the expectations and activities of the collaboration.

Membership of the Council

Membership in the Consortium does not imply membership on the OSG Council. The council represents the organizations that comprise the Consortium. The Council Membership shall not exceed 30 voting members. At least two voting slots will be held for council members at large to represent Consortium members who do not have direct representation on the council. At large representatives will have a term of two years.

The Council has the ability to appoint non-voting liaisons and partnership representatives to participate in the council.

New organizations may apply for membership in the Council if supported by at least one existing member. The proposal for participation is submitted to the Council Chair. The Chair will consult with the Executive Team who will make a recommendation to the Council concerning the application. The Council formally votes on the acceptance of new members in a timely and appropriate manner.

Council Chairpersons

At any given time, there shall be two Council Chairpersons, either a Chair (Acting) and a Chair-Elect or a Chair (Acting) and a Past Chair. Every two years, the Council shall self-elect a Chair-Elect, who will serve one year in that role before becoming Chair for the following two years. Upon the ascension of the Chair-Elect to Chair, the preceding Chair serves as Past Chair for one year, ending when the subsequent Chair-Elect is elected. The accompanying diagram illustrates the scheme.

(s)election	Meeting in March Official start of the new model	election		election	
↓	↓	↓		↓	
2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
A Chair (Acting)	A (Past Chair) backup				
B Chair-Elect	B Chair (Acting)	B Chair (Acting)	B (Past Chair) backup		
		C Chair-Elect	C Chair (Acting)	C Chair (Acting)	C (Past Chair) backup
				D Chair-Elect

Provisions for a sustainable and resilient model are as follows:

- Should the Chair be unable to complete the two-year term, the Chair-Elect will immediately become Chair and the Council will select a new Chair-Elect. The Council will adjust the election cycle so that the new Chair serves a two year’s effective term (“acting” role).
- Should the Chair-Elect be unable to complete the one-year term, the Council will select a new Chair-Elect. This could happen during either (a) the overlap with an outgoing chairperson serving as backup - in this case, an elect is found and immediately serves as acting chair under the guidance of the outgoing chairperson or (b) immediately after the election of a chair-elect has occurred – in this case, a new chair-elect is elected. In this later case, the council chairperson may also call the council to endorse the second-best alternate candidate of the recent election.
- Should neither the Chair nor the Chair-Elect be able to complete their terms, the OSG Executive Director will temporarily serve as Council Chair for the purpose of organizing the selection of a new Chair and Chair-Elect.

Council Member Responsibilities

It is the intention that OSG Council members actively participate in Council and Consortium activities on a regular basis. Activities include teleconference, video-conferences, face to face meetings, email voting, contributing to the work of the council, etc. A regular basis is defined as participation in at least ½ of the council events during a 6 month period.

Alternates

Council members can send alternates to meetings and activities occasionally, but this is not considered actively participating. Alternates are allowed to represent their respective organizations and, if empowered, vote via proxy.

Quorum

For the sake of votes, 1/5 of the membership is considered a quorum as long as the vote is announced in advance.

A Council member can provide a voting proxy to another council member or an alternate by contacting the Council Chair and informing the chair who has the member’s proxy. Proxies are temporary and last for the length of a single activity (meeting, electronic vote, etc.).

Establishment of by-laws

The bylaws and [charter](#)² are accepted by majority vote according to the [OSG Voting Procedures](#)³ as approved at the time of the vote. The initial bylaws and charter were accepted by consensus.

Amendment of by-laws or charter

(1) An amendment to the bylaws or charter can be proposed by any member of the Executive Team or Council.

(2) A proposed amendment is then accepted according the OSG Voting Rules as approved at the time of the vote.

² <http://osg-docdb.opensciencegrid.org/cgi-bin/ShowDocument?docid=25>

³ <http://osg-docdb.opensciencegrid.org/cgi-bin/ShowDocument?docid=311>

Change History

V.2.2	2020/03	JL/KB	Reshaped bylaws to reflect new structure, Council Chairpersons (chair and chair-elect)
V2.1	2015/01	FKW, CSS, RP, BJ	Added the concept of sharing eco-system and consortium member's role in maximizing sharing.
V2.0	2013/03	AB, VW, KM, RP	Combined bylaws and voting, cleared up text for inconsistencies. Made role of ET clear. Remove Scientific Advisory Group
			Added Purpose; Define the Executive Team; Define Council Membership; Define participation expectations, alternates, proxies*; Define high level responsibilities; Deleted member lists – will be post on the web
V1.0.3	8/24/05	wtck	Updates based on funding agreements and other originating documents.
v.1.0.1	3/10/05	fkw	Added D.Olson to exec. Board as of Feb.9 2005
V1.0	2/18/05	fkw	TG-Governance ratified text