

**OFA Board Meeting
August 31, 2017
11am Mountain**

1. Roll Call:

Board Members:

At-Large / Jason Gunthorpe
At-Large / Bob Noseworthy
Broadcom / Eddie Wai
Cray/Paul Grun
HPE / Andy Riebs
Huawei / Daqi Ren
IBM / Bernard Metzler
Intel / Jim Pappas
Jump Trading / Christoph Lameter
LANL / Susan Coulter
LLNL / Matt Leininger
Mellanox / Bill Lee for Gilad Shainer
NetApp / David Dale
Oak Ridge / Scott Atchley
Oracle / David Brean
Sandia / Mike Aguilar
Unisys / Lilia Weber

Also Present:

OFA/Jim Ryan
Intel/Bob Woodruff
LANL/Parks Fields
Intel/Paul Bowden
Intel/Divya Kolar

2. Susan Coulter (LANL) motioned to approve the board minutes from 20 July 2017 if corrections provided by Christoph Lameter (Jump Trading) and Paul Grun (Cray) were applied. Paul Grun (Cray) seconded the motion.

3. Working Group Reports

- **Enterprise Working Group (EWG)**---Bob Woodruff (Intel)
 - Work has started on OFED-4.8-1. The major new features are addition of the new upstream Broadcom and Cavium RoCE drivers, plus backports for NFS/RDMA.
 - The release will also pull in the latest upstream RDMA-Core V15 and fix a couple more SRP bugs and a new other bug fixes for various vendor drivers.
 - Initial daily builds are available for testing
at: <http://downloads.openfabrics.org/OFED/ofed-4.8-1-daily/>

- The EWG is still awaiting some backports for NFS/RMDA and the new drivers and waiting for the GA release of RDMA-Core V15, which is expected in a couple of weeks. Once the backports and drivers are completed and pulled in, the EWG will release RC1 and come back to the OFA board to get GA release approval.
- **Open Fabric Interfaces Working Group (OFIWG)**---Paul Grun (Cray)]OFIWG is continuing to investigate enhancements to the libfabric API for supporting Persistent Memory by exploring NVML (pmem.io) as a proxy application.
 - The slides are not there yet, but will be shortly.
 - Sean delivered an updated libfabric tutorial at Hot Interconnects. The slides will be posted in the OFIWG work group area here: http://downloads.openfabrics.org/WorkGroups/ofiwg/Industry_presentations/
 - As a result of the OFA's participation at the Flash Memory Summit, OFIWG has re-established contact with the Gen-Z Consortium. This resulted in an exploratory meeting between the OFA and the Consortium. Key outcomes of that discussion are as follows:
 - Gen-Z supports libfabric
 - Gen-Z has an Open Source IP model more-or-less identical to ours. This will make cooperation between us much easier.
 - Names were provided to the OFA of the folks from the Gen-Z Consortium who are focusing on libfabric. Paul has the AR to build on that connection.
 - **Marketing Working Group (MWG)**---Bill Lee (Mellanox)
 - MWG kicked off the preparation for the 2018 workshop in Boulder, Colorado. A save the date email has been sent out and blog has been posted.
 - Paul Grun (Cray) delivered and introductory presentation at the SSSI Reception at Flash Memory Summit.
 - Paul Grun (Cray) led the SSSI OFA session at the Flash Memory Summit, with approximately 70 attendees.
 - Jim Pappas (Intel) Paul performed extremely well.
4. Treasurers Report---Bill Lee (Mellanox)
- Divya Kolar (Intel) stated that Intel had not yet received invoices from OFA from July on. Bill Lee (Mellanox) stated that he would check the Intel invoicing portal to validate that OFA had submitted invoices..
 - Payments to the University of New Hampshire Interoperability Lab (UNH-IOL) are on track.

- The 2017 OFA Workshop was \$3,541 over budget.
- In the budget, you will note that hosting fees weren't charged until April. There was a communications issue with the billing people at the hosting company and their bills were not getting to OFA. We are still missing our July bill from the hosting company, also.
- The budget worksheet shows that OFA started the year with \$271,704 in the bank. OFA is expecting to finish the year with \$315,731 in the bank.
- Paul Grun (Cray) asked the board how OFA should properly account for the bank balance \$315,731 in future budgets. Bill Lee (Mellanox) suggested that a future budget account for the money in the bank as a cash buffer in case of membership level changes and operational money is needed.
- Jim Pappas (Intel) made note that OFA received \$82,000 from the temporary Intel funding and spent \$32,000. He noted that if OFA hadn't received that money, then OFA would have had running a serious deficit in 2017. Bill Lee (Mellanox) noted that OFA was paying for the services of an Executive Director. IF the 2017 budget had not included both the Intel funding and an Executive Director, the budget would have been in balance for 2017.
- Bill Lee (Mellanox) also stated that the OFA needs to have serious discussion about the 2018 budget in regards to how much OFA is going to charge its members, in the small group that creates the budget. Bill noted that we should be sending quotes for membership dues in December, 2017 with a possible dues increase, That way, we can get POs to the members.
- Bill restated that he needed to step down as acting Treasurer due to other time commitments.
 - Jim Ryan (OFA) is willing to step up into the role of interim treasurer. Sue Coulter (LANL) is pushing for a permanently committed Treasurer because of the impermanence of Jim Ryan's Executive Director contract while OFA is in discussions over Executive Director funding. Susan Coulter (LANL) noted 'what happens in 5 months?'
- Jason Gunthorpe (At-Large) noted that we have money in the bank that we could use to continue to pay contractors. So, in the event that we needed to, we could continue to pay Jim Ryan to perform Executive Director work.
- Christoph Lameter (Jump Trading) noted that an Executive Director would be able to recruit new members. The Executive Director would be able to bring more money into the OFA and help keep individual membership costs down, even with the contractor costs of an Executive Director and a Maintainer.

- Jim Pappas (Intel) wanted to note that in the 2017 budget, that Intel contributed \$140,000 to the OFA with \$50,000 going out to OFA expenses. There was a spending level gap of for the Executive Director of \$90,000. He wanted to know how we were going to accommodate that in the 2018 budget
5. Plumbers Conference (September 13-15).
 - Jason Gunthorpe (At-Large) gave a quick rundown of his future presentation.
 - Notable from his presentation were the status of the OFA and new directions that the Alliance is discussing for the future to stay relevant.
 - In his presentation, he also discusses the UNH-IOL, OFED, and libfabric.
 6. Ownership of libfabric.org
 - Susan Coulter (LANL) found out that some entity purchased the libfabric.org domain. Since OFA owns the libfabric API, she mentioned that the OFA should own then libfabric.org domain. The OFA Board should put purchasing and maintaining the libfabric.org domain in its discussion towards a Board vote.
 7. UNH-IOL update – We would like a modernized test framework. We approved some funding for UNH-IOL to upgrade their testing equipment to include Jenkins or Beaker.
 - Jenkins and Beaker are testing frameworks that are more commonly used in industry.
 - There are 6 different documents being reviewed including a test plan for IWG approval.
 8. The current OFA Draft Mission Statement reads as follows: Provide a neutral environment for community assets and infrastructure in support of highly performant networking software development, enhancement, and integration of that software with new and emerging technologies.
 9. Executive Director and Maintainer estimates / draft contract

Susan Coulter (LANL) is working on draft contracts that include a pay rate for both a Maintainer and an Executive Director.

- Maintainer Contract (Draft):

This position is called OFA Maintainer. The role of maintainer, as implemented by the OFA, would require that the individual chosen already be active in the development of the RDMA subsystem and user space code. They should already have an existing trust relationship with others in the field and be able to resolve any conflicts that arise and provide feedback and guidance to the community. This is can be demonstrated by frequently giving feedback to proposals put forth by

others and helping to find the approaches that make the most sense. This feedback and assistance is necessary to guide the future architecture of the RDMA subsystem. This role includes kernel maintenance, but also the maintenance of user space code that is part of the larger code base that supports RDMA technology. The maintainer will ensure proper patch flow and submission to larger projects as needed. Because the RDMA subsystem gets merged into the kernel and the user space libraries are included in various distributions, the ability to communicate and coordinate with other maintainers is critical. All maintainers work in accountable relationships with other key contributors, other maintainers, and upstream. The OFA maintainer role, therefore, includes a large community aspect, which requires communication skills and responsiveness – both of which are essential for success.

The compensation for this position will be \$50.00 per hour. The number of hours worked per week should not exceed an average of 20 hours per week in any calendar month. Periods during which large efforts are underway, however, may require more than a 20-hour average. This is allowable with prior authorization. Estimated annual compensation for this position is \$55,000. (\$52,000 + buffer)

A 1099 earnings statement will be provided annually. The OFA will not be responsible for filing or paying any taxes related to these earnings.

A monthly invoice needs to be submitted to the OFA by the 10th day of the month following the month being invoiced. Along with the submitted invoice, an Excel spreadsheet needs to be provided containing detailed information about the work performed. This documentation should be submitted to the Board Chair for approval, and will be made available to any Board member.

All required OFA travel would be reimbursed. Original receipts will be required when submitting travel expenditures.

This contract employment is “at will” and may be terminated at any time by either party. If OFA wishes to terminate, a one month notice will be given.

This offer is contingent upon your ability to provide proof of your eligibility to work in the United States. A completed [W-9 form](#) will be required, as well as two forms of identification.

- Executive Director Contract (Draft):

This position is called Executive Director. The role of the Executive Director (ED) of the OpenFabrics Alliance (OFA) is to implement the strategic plans of the OFA in a cost-effective and time-efficient manner. This requires the ED to assist in complex and long-running projects, providing insight and leadership to achieve successful completion. The ED will be expected to lead the effort to both retain existing OFA members and encourage new membership in the OFA. Other responsibilities include playing a strong role in both the logistics and technical content planning for the annual workshop, as well as participating in the identification of other organizations and conferences with whom the OFA could build synergistic relationships. The ED may be expected to fill in as Secretary or Treasurer in the absence of those officers. In the case of hiring staff, the ED will play a role in the work required to define, advertise and fill these positions. The ED reports to the Board of Directors and the Board of Directors grants the ED the authority to perform tasks. The ED is accountable to the Chair of the Board of Directors and will be required to provide status reports on a regular basis.

The compensation for this position will be \$80.00 per hour. The number of hours worked per week should not exceed an average of 10 hours per week in any calendar month. Periods during which large efforts are underway, however, may require more than a 10-hour average. This is allowable with prior authorization. Estimated total annual compensation is \$45,000. (\$41,600 + buffer)

A 1099 earnings statement will be provided annually. The OFA will not be responsible for filing or paying any taxes related to these earnings.

A monthly invoice needs to be submitted to the OFA by the 10th day of the month following the month being invoiced. Along with the submitted invoice, an Excel spreadsheet needs to be provided containing detailed information about the work performed, in 30-minute increments. This documentation should be submitted to the Board Chair for approval, and will be made available to any Board member.

All required OFA travel would be reimbursed. Original receipts will be required when submitting travel expenditures.

This contract employment is “at will” and may be terminated at any time by either party. If OFA wishes to terminate, a one month notice will be given. This offer is contingent upon your ability to provide proof of your eligibility to work in the United States. A completed [W-9 form](#) will be required, as well as two forms of identification.