Consortium Overview

Brand Fortner
Executive Director, iRODS Consortium
iRODS Sustainability

• iRODS Technology funded thru government grants over 15+ years

• How to provide sustainability as government funding winds down?

• Our answer is the iRODS Consortium
iRODS Consortium

- Provide for long term *sustainability, support, development, & use* of iRODS technology
- Run by RENCI, part of UNC-CH
- Funded by Membership and by RENCI
- Current members: *RENCI, DICE, Max Planck, Sanger, DDN, EMC*
Consortium Organization

Executive Board

Senior Officers
- Executive Director
- Chief Technologist

Advisory Committee
- Planning Committee
- Technical Working Group
- Other committees and working groups

Consortium Staff

Member Allocated Staff
Benefits of Membership

• Contribute to Sustainability of iRODS

• Integral part of iRODS community

• Prioritized service & support

• Voting rights on iRODS technical and consortium direction

• Enhance the growth of the use of iRODS technology
Membership Levels

- **General** $10K/yr
  - Committee Participation
  - Event Participation
  - 10 hr/yr

- **Professional** $35K/yr
  - Planning Committee voting rights
  - Release Roadmap voting rights
  - Hosting, marketing, mailing list rights
  - 40 hr/yr

- **Sustaining** $75K/yr
  - Executive Board voting rights
  - 80 hr/yr

- **Founding** $150K/yr
  - 120 hr/yr
Current Status

• Focused on member recruitment and raising awareness of iRODS and the Consortium.

• **Fall 2013:** Exec director hired

• **Nov 2013:** first paying member

• **March 2014:** iRODS 4.0, the first Consortium iRODS release.

• **May 2014:** Tech sales manager hired

• **Staff:**
  – Admin: *exec director, project manager, RENCI*
  – Tech: *chief technologist, four developers*
  – Marketing/sales: *tech sales manager*
• **Goal: Increase the Size & Scope of the User Community**
  – Packaged binaries
  – Additional documentation

• **Increased customer interaction**
  – Site visits
  – Support agreements

• **Additional marketing efforts**
  – Blogging, demos, and templates at irods.org
  – Polling the community on requested features
  – Increased conference attendance
iRODS Consortium Sustainability

• Investigate additional sources of funding

• Goal is not *profitability* but *sustainability*

• Sustainability means that the core iRODS team focuses on the core technology

• iRODS Consortium must always provide core technology, development, and support, in addition to any other services.

• iRODS Consortium must always provide administrative and decision support
Wiki List of Open Source Sustainability Models

- Dual License
- Selling Services
- Branded Merchandise
- Software as a Service (SAAS)
- Funding Agency Partnerships
- Donations
- Bountyware
- Crowdfunding
- Advertising Support
- Proprietary plug-ins
- Obfuscation
- Delayed open-source
iRODS Sustainability Additions

• **Relationship Management**
  – *Outside Funding Agencies (winding down)*
  – *Consortium (core)*

• **Proprietary Development**
  – *Proprietary Plug-ins*
  – *Proprietary Rules*

• **Professional Services**
  – *Service Agreements*
  – *Support Contracts*
  – *Reseller Agreements*
  – *Training and Certification*
iRODS Professional Services

• **Service Agreements**
  – *Architectural Design*
  – *Rules Development and Installation*
  – *Directed Development*
  – *Custom Training*

• **Support Contracts**
  – *Ongoing maintenance, starting at 10 hours / year*
  – *Also available through Consortium Membership*

• **Reseller Agreements**
  – *Tier 3 support*
  – *custom training*
  – *project-oriented services*
iRODS Training and Certification

• **System Architecture**
  – *Policy Development*
  – *Infrastructure scaling*

• **Data Administration**
  – *Installation and configuration*
  – *Maintenance and troubleshooting*
  – *Implementing policies with rules and existing microservices*

• **Advanced Development**
  – *Plug-ins, microservices*

• **Support**
  – *Tier one, two, three level support*