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Draft Charter for GGF Research Group on Humanities, Arts and Social Science (HASS-RG) Grid

The Humanities, Arts and Social Science Research Group (HASS-RG) will explore the feasibility of integrating the Humanities, Arts and Social Science with Information Technology on a grid infrastructure. The forum of the HASS-RG will be designed to bring together members of the humanities, arts, social science, computer science, engineering and IT communities into a common grid computing dialogue. The proposed charter is broad by design to allow the participants from traditional and nontraditional applied research communities to explore issues related to the implementation of grid technologies in this area. To this end the HASS-RG will serve as a unique forum for information exchange on advances and requirements in these areas until sufficient maturity and interest in the formation of a separate WG or RG to further pursue them. Three specific goals of the HASS-RG are to:

- Define the nature and scope of a functional grid to support robust, real-world applications in the areas of humanities, arts and social sciences
- Identify the expertise within the humanities, arts, social science, computer science, engineering and IT communities. As well as their roles and responsibilities of each in delivering an effective HASS grid
- Review, define and implement mechanisms that bring together and support collaboration between grid technologists and users in HASS communities of interest

Periodic releases of informational documents, articles and recommendations from members of this newly formed HASS-RG community will be published on the GGF website. The initial documents will concentrate on identifying the grid issues of the HASS communities. As HASS-RG identifies and explores relevant applications, further informational documents will be written and released to the communities.

Specific topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Identifying different solution areas and classifying them
- Exploring possible reference architectures for each solution area
- Identify clear examples and the diverse use of the grid within the humanities, arts and social sciences
- Discuss issues of access to data within the humanities, arts and social sciences
- Discuss state of standards, within sub disciplines and between sub disciplines
- Identify how the grid can be challenged by the humanities, arts and social sciences, and where there is need for activity

A range of grid technologies will be necessary to integrate and manage the data, (text, video, images, and audio, etc.) generated and analyzed by the HASS communities. The HASS-RG will work on researching a range of grid technologies and implications to enhance data and knowledge discovery, with special attention to

issues of access and ease of use across the humanities and social science research and practitioner communities.

In short, the Humanities and Social Science Research Group will be working towards a highly interdisciplinary interface between: humanities, arts, social science and information technology.

Goals/Milestones:

- Hosted a BoF at GGF7 (June 2003 in Seattle, WA)
- Actively engage members of the humanities, arts and social science communities in this HASS activities (March 2004 – September 2004)
- Discuss and revise HASS charter at GGF10 (March 2004 in Berlin, Germany)
- Plan and host HASS-RG symposium at GGF11 (Hawaii)
- Produce a HASS-RG white paper (GGF12)
- Spin-off a HASS WG to develop a HASS grid (August 2005)

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