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November 16, 2005

National Science Foundation boosts area research

The University at Buffalo will share in an \$800,000 National Science Foundation award to establish a computational grid to support research in the Buffalo area.



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Research several years ago.

"At UB, these funds will allow us to design and deploy critical grid-based infrastructure that will allow for outreach and training to our sister organizations so that they can get up to speed on grid computing," said Russ Miller, CCR director and UB Distinguished Professor in the department of computer science and engineering.

Miller, principal investigator on the new grant, said the grid will provide an unprecedented educational opportunity for the region, as many private companies and institutions have their own computational grids.

UB's Center for Computational Research, part of the New York State Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics and Life Sciences, is lead organization on the grant, which will create the Western New York Computational and Data Science Grid for use in research, education and outreach.

A grid combines computers, storage devices and visualization systems, sometimes at different institutions, to tackle demanding computations. The grant will allow UB, the Hauptman-Woodward Medical Research Institute, Niagara University and the Geneseo State College to expand the Western New York portion of the Advanced Computational Data Center grid established with NSF funding at the Center for Computational

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"By educating students about how to work with computational and data grids," he said, "UB, Niagara and SUNY Geneseo will be putting students in the strongest possible position in terms of their future employment."

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