



July 16, 2012

Mr. John Towns  
National Center for Supercomputing Applications  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
1205 W. Clark St., Room 1008  
Urbana, IL 61801

Dear John,

The Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center (PSC) wishes to participate in the XSEDE Federation and SP Forum as a Level 1 Service Provider (SP) through its delivery to the national research community of high performance computing resources, currently an SGI UV shared memory system with 4096 cores and 32 terabytes of shared memory known as Blacklight with associated file systems and multi-petabyte disk-based 'archive'. We will also continue our participation in XSEDE's Project Office, Operations, User Services, Extended Collaborative Support Services, Education and Outreach, and Technology Insertion Service activities.

This level of integration of PSC into XSEDE will enhance the productivity of scientists and engineers by providing them with new and innovative capabilities and thus facilitate scientific discovery while enabling transformational science/engineering and innovative educational programs. As a part of XSEDE, PSC's capabilities and services have increased visibility to the national community and are, thereby, more likely to be requested by the members of that community.

PSC's participation in XSEDE's comprehensive, expertly managed, advanced, functionally integrated, heterogeneous high-end general-purpose infrastructure, will extend PSC's ability to serve the national research community. Through XSEDE PSC gets an expanded view of the needs of the research community, beyond what we are likely to see independently, as well as input on available methodologies for satisfying those needs consistent with an integrated, national Cyberinfrastructure.

We have reviewed the *XD Service Providers Forum: Charter, Membership, and Governance* document (version 10.1, dated 2 February 2012, at: [https://www.xsede.org/documents/10157/281380/SPF\\_Definition\\_v10.1\\_120228.pdf](https://www.xsede.org/documents/10157/281380/SPF_Definition_v10.1_120228.pdf)) defining the mutual responsibilities of XSEDE and an SP and are confident that we can and will fulfill our obligations as described therein.

In the event that you have an issue with our performance, please contact me, directly. Similarly, if we perceive an issue, we will contact you. In either case we commit to work with you to resolve any issues.

We at PSC look forward to working with XSEDE to advance the mission of XSEDE and the NSF in advancing the nation's research capability.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael J. Levine". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Michael J. Levine  
Co-Scientific Director