

## NEWS FROM TERENA (135)



### SERENATE holds its final workshop in Bad Nauheim

20 June 2003

The SERENATE project held its Final Workshop in Bad Nauheim, Germany on 16-17 June 2003. More than ninety representatives of research and education networks, national governments and funding bodies, network operators, equipment manufacturers and the scientific and education community participated in a programme of presentations and group discussions about the findings of the project.

SERENATE (Study into European Research and Education Networking As Targeted by eEurope) is the name of a series of studies into the future of research and education networking in Europe. SERENATE investigates the strategic aspects of the development of networks at 100 Gb/s and beyond, by looking into the technical, organisational and financial aspects, the market conditions and the regulatory environment. The objective of the Final Workshop was to discuss the provisional conclusions reached in the SERENATE studies, receive feedback and develop a consensus in order to prepare a final project report, which will be published at the end of the year.

The workshop programme started with a presentation by David Williams, chairman of the SERENATE Steering Committee and past President of TERENA, who gave a summary of the project findings and the resulting proposed recommendations. Dai Davies of DANTE followed with an outline of the present context in terms of available telecommunications infrastructures and their pricing. Ian Butterworth of the Academia Europaea presented an overview of the requirements of network users in the European research community. The SERENATE findings in this area were illustrated by four short presentations by prominent European researchers. Marko Bonac of ARNES, Slovenia discussed the "digital divide" in research and education networking between various regions in Europe.

Participants then split into two groups. In the first group, Valentino Cavalli of TERENA outlined the technical opportunities and difficulties of optical networking. The second group discussed the evolution of the infrastructure market following a presentation by Knud Erik Skouby of the Center for Tele-Information of the Technical University of Denmark.

The second day of the workshop began with plenary sessions. First, several case studies were presented on the introduction to research and education networks of new user groups from communities outside research and higher education. Sabine Jaume-Rajaonia of RENATER, France presented the conclusions from the case studies. The second plenary addressed the issues of costs and investments required and included a presentation by Jean-Paul le Guigner of the Comité Réseau des Universités, France about investments in campus networks. Workshop participants then divided into four groups that provided an opportunity for discussions and comments on any and all of the topics of the workshop. Finally, participants heard reports on the results of the breakout sessions in the closing plenary session, which also included a general discussion led by DANTE's Tomaz Kalin.

More detailed information about the workshop can be found at

More detailed information about the workshop including the presentation slides can be found at:

<http://www.serenate.org/workshop5.html>

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