OFA Board Meeting
September 21, 2017
11am Mountain

1. Roll Call:
   Board Members:
   - **At-Large / Jason Gunthorpe**
   - **At-Large / Bob Noseworthy**
   - **Broadcom / Eddie Wai**
   - **Cray/Paul Grun**
   - **HPE / Andy Riebs**
   - Huawei / Daqi Ren
   - **IBM / Bernard Metzler**
   - **Intel / Jim Pappas**
   - **Jump Trading / Christoph Lameter**
   - **LANL / Susan Coulter**
   - LLNL / Matt Leininger
   - **Mellanox / Bill Lee** for Gilad Shainer
   - **NetApp / David Dale**
   - **Oak Ridge / Scott Atchley**
   - **Oracle / David Brean**
   - **Sandia / Mike Aguilar**
   - Unisys / Lilia Weber

   Also Present:
   - **OFA/Jim Ryan**
   - **Intel/Bob Woodruff**
   - **LANL/Parks Fields**
   - **Intel/Paul Bowden**
   - Intel/Divya Kolar

2. Approve Board minutes from 8/31

   A motion to approve the Board Minutes from 31 August 2017 was made by Paul Grun (Cray). The motion was seconded by Andy Riebs (HPE).

3. Working Group Reports

   3.1. Enterprise Working Group (EWG)----Bob Woodruff (Intel)

   - A motion to approve OFED release 4-8.1 was made by Paul Grun (Cray) and seconded by Jim Pappas (Intel).
   - Bob Woodruff (Intel) reported that work was proceeding on OFED-4.8.1. The major new features included in the new OFED-4.8.1 release were: new drivers for Broadcom and Cavium NICs, backports for NFS/RDMA, the latest *rdma-core v 15* user space code, and some 'bug' fixes.
   - The newest build of OFED-4.8.1 can be downloaded as: OFED-4.8-1-20170920-1116.tgz starting next week.

3.2. OpenFabrics Interfaces Working Group (OFIWG)

- Paul Grun (Cray) reported that OFIWG has concluded their review of the current Non-Volatile Memory Library (NVML) is the Persistent Memory (PM) project.
  - o The results of the recent Flash Memory Summit presentation were used to drive a discussion of Use-Cases. This resulted in the identification of several key areas for discussion. Two broad use cases have been identified: data replication to persistent memory for high availability and globally shared, remote persistent memory.
    - The next steps on Persistent Memory are to begin to assemble a detailed list of requirements and to begin discussing detailed alternatives to meet the new Use-Cases.
  - o OFIWG is excited to report the fact that high speed network fabrics and their interfaces are finding interest beyond HPC and Storage applications.
    - The next two OFIWG meetings are devoted to middleware for Big Data.
      - There will be discussions about implementing OpenFabrics interfaces and high speed fabrics with message brokers such as zeromq and RabbitMQ.
      - There will be discussions about implementing OpenFabrics interfaces and high speed fabrics with NetIO and intelligent devices.
  - o The SC17 Committee accepted two Bird of a Feather discussions (BoFs) from OFIWG but asked that they be merged into one BoF. Based upon the architectural work that went into the creation of a fabric-agnostic API, OpenFabrics is a natural fit for discussion of expanding the adoption of high speed fabric APIs.
    - The BoF description is as follows: "Application performance and scalability is affected by the design and usability of network APIs. Open Fabrics libfabric promises high-performance access to fabric services, through an implementation agnostic interface.
      - This BoF will begin with a series of lightning talks to share experiences related to developing libfabric. It will conclude by proposing that Open Fabrics develop fabric extensions to the C++ networking technical specification, for submission to the ISO C++ standards committee."

- SC17 accepted a Birds of a Feather session on OFI and Persistent Memory. As we get closer to SC17 OFIWG and MWG will promote the BoF session.

3.3. Marketing Working Group (MWG)----Bill Lee (Mellanox)

- The OpenFabrics 2018 workshop preparation has been kicked off. All OFA members interested in helping with the logistics (venue preparation, marketing, social media, etc.) or with the technical program (call for topics, selection process, etc.) can contact Bill Lee (Mellanox) for meeting times.
- 2018 call for sponsorships will be presented at the next board meeting.

3.4. Interop Working Group (IWG)----Paul Bowden (Intel)
- In attendance for the 19 September 2017 meeting for the IWG wasa Paul Bowden (Intel), Jim Ryan (OFA), Bob Noseworthy (University of New Hampshire-Interop Laboratory-UNH-IOL), Stefan Oesterreich (UNH-IOL), Adam Leblanc (UNH-IOL), Vinay Gupta (Broadcom), and Martin Schlining (DDN). The next meeting for IWG is scheduled for 3 October 2017: https://www.openfabrics.org/index.php/ofa-calendar.html
- Stefan Oesterreich (UNH-IOL) reported back on the 17 July 2017 Logo Event that the Logo tests were completed. All of the Logo reports were submitted by UNH-IOL for member approval.
- Stephan Oesterreich (UNH-IOL) has reported that the **OFA-IWG Debug Event is scheduled for 30 October 2017 to 3 November 2017**. Originally, UNH-IOL offered dates of 6 November 2017 to 10 November 2017 for testing dates. However, the dates were decided upon due to efficient travel issues.
- Open issues:
  - There was discussion within the IWG about testing SELinux 7.4 with OpenMPI 3.0.0 and OFED 4.8.1. The testing dates are not set and are yet to be determined.
    - Martin Schlining (DDN) and Stephan Oesterreich (UNH-IOL) will run an IB test case to verify stability with OFED-4.8.1, the latest build, and report back the results.
  - Vinay Gupta (Broadcom) raised the issue of OpenMPI bandwidth limits. The issue with bandwidth limits is resolvable via a command-line change and Interop testing with OpenMPI was accepted.
  - Jim Ryan (OFA) discussed the issue of hardware replacement. An offer from Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) is being evaluated.
  - Vinay Gupta (Broadcom) asked if NFSoRDMA will be available for Interop testing during the debug event starting 30 October 2017? Vinay has been tracking the availability of NFSoRDMA for Interop testing availability issue with the Enterprise Working Group (EWG). While EWG is making progress on NFSoRDMA, the listed open is

being listed to show that Interop will be waiting to see if the new OFED 4.8.1 code will be completed in time for the Debug Event.
   o There is a light discussion on including Non-Volatile Memory over Fabric (NVMEoF) in a debug event. Bob Noseworthy (UNH-IOL, At-Large) took the AR to provide a contact with the NVME consortium for discussion.

4. Treasurers Report----Jim Ryan (OFA)
   - The transition to an Interim Treasurer is complete to Jim Ryan (OFA) from Bill Lee (Mellanox). Jim wanted to mention that Bill has gone out of his way to make a quick transition.
   - The Linux Foundation was late in submitting billing invoices from the OpenFabrics Alliance to Intel for Executive Director support. The late invoices included billing for August 2017 and September 2017. The Linux Foundation stated that they have made changes that will ensure that the invoices will be sent to Intel in a more timely manner.
      o Jim Pappas (Intel) mentioned that Intel will need their billing for Quarter 4 2017 by early December 2017.
   - Jim Ryan (OFA) stated that the OpenFabrics Alliance has $423,871 in the bank account, currently. Current projections for the 2017 show that OFA can expect that it will have $315,731 in the bank at the end of 2017.
   - Jim Ryan (OFA) stated that OFA had an August income of $13,910.

5. Workshop Technical Program Committee Co-Chairs & Members
   - The OpenFabrics Alliance Co-Chairs for the 2018 Workshop are Parks Fields (LANL) and Paul Grun (Cray)
   - The Workshop will use Easy Chair for research paper submissions of interest.
   - The Workshop will make a 'Call for Sessions'. The Workshop sessions will be of key topics that will be of interest to the attendees.
      o An announcement will be made around the start time of SC17 for a 'Call for Papers'.
      o The Workshop Committee will begin group paper proposals to evaluate proposals for acceptance or rejection or conditional acceptance.
      o The sessions will be ½ hour multi-track lightning talks.

6. Draft OpenFabrics Alliance Privacy Statement----Jim Ryan (OFA)
   - OFA will be taking in feedback and voting on the Privacy Statement during the October 2017 OFA Board meeting.
   - The draft privacy statement reads as follows:

   The OpenFabrics Alliance (OFA) has created this privacy statement in order to demonstrate our firm commitment to privacy. The following discloses our information gathering and dissemination practices for this website: https://www.openfabrics.org/index.php and for repositories maintained and managed by third party service providers on behalf of the OFA. Third parties

who have access to all information on this site and they are responsible for maintaining the privacy described in this statement. Third parties retain no rights or privileges associated with the information (i.e. cannot distribute, sell, exchange the information collected).

This privacy statement will describe what information is captured on individuals and corporate entities, for what purpose and how to modify information or opt out of notifications procedures initiated by the OFA.

No information the OFA collects will ever be made available to third parties, other than those providing services directly to the OFA.

IP Address
We use your IP address to help diagnose problems with our server and to administer our Web site. Your IP address is used to gather broad demographic information.

We collect private information from the following sources for purposes as described:

- ***Membership Registration Form***

    - *Our site's registration form may require users to give us contact information (like their name and email address), financial information (like their credit card numbers), and demographic information (like their zip code or hotel preferences). We use user contact information from the registration form to send the user information about our organization. Membership information is used in accordance with the membership agreement and bylaws. The member's contact information is also used to contact the visitor when necessary. A member's name and email address is also available to all other members in a contact list in a password-protected area. Members control whether or not their name is displayed on this contact list. Users may opt-out of receiving future mailings; see the choice/opt-out section below. Financial information that is collected is used to bill the user for products and services ordered. Demographic and profile data is also collected at our site. We use this data to determine where we should locate different events. Additionally, our members may be required to sign a non-disclosure agreement.*

- ***OFA Workshop Registration***

    - *Information required for registration is collected from individuals and collected and shared with third-party payment processors. The registration includes an optional link to the host site hotel. Registration information is kept for future use in*

making each year's Workshop information known and to invite participation. Information on how to opt-out of such use is provided as part of the registration process or as described in the choice/opt-out section below.

- ***OFA Logo/Interoperability Program Registration***

  o *Information required for participation in this Program is collected and used for third-party processing of program fees, and for communicating the results of interoperability tests and logo results. There is no other use for this information, so there is no opt-out provision.*

- ***Third-party Training Provider Registration***

  o *The OFA has developed some training materials described elsewhere on this website. Materials are freely available for internal use, but the OFA requires identification of individuals and entities that intend to use the materials for third-party training. There is no other use for this information, so there is no opt-out information.*

- ***OFA Workgroup Reflectors***

  o *The OFA has a number of Workgroups (WGs) classified as "private" and "public". The public WGs are described here: https://www.openfabrics.org/index.php/working-groups-overview.html*

  and that page makes the request to go to the list administration page, which allows for requests to all WGs. The private WGs have carefully-controlled access, but the public WGs are open and available to all regardless of membership status in the OFA. The privacy statement applies to the public WGs.

  All WGs have email reflectors and members should assume their identities are known within the WG. Some WGs have archived information available to all members. Some WGs record their meetings including who participated, anything shared via collaboration software and the meeting discussion. Again, this is all available only within the WG, but it constitutes a permanent record.

- ***Registration for Software Maintained and made Available by the OFA***

This is included for completeness but in fact there is no privacy statement required. At present, no information is collected on anyone downloading software. If that were to change in the future, this will be revisited.

Links

This site may contain links to other sites. Should that be the case, the OFA is not responsible for the privacy practices or the content of such Web sites.

Order Form

Our site may use an order form for customers to request information, products, and services. We collect visitor's contact information (like their email address), financial information (like their credit card numbers), and demographic information (like their zip code). Contact information from the order form is used to send orders to our customers. The user's contact information is used to get in touch with the visitor when necessary. Users may opt-out of receiving future mailings; see the choice/opt-out section below. Financial information that is collected is used to bill the user for products and services. Additionally, we may require a customer to sign a license agreement.

Cookies

We use cookies to record session information and to track a user's path through our web sites. This enables us to respond to any problems with our service and to offer a more personalized service.

Surveys

OFA online surveys may ask visitors for contact information (like their email address). The user's contact information is used to contact the visitor when necessary. Users may opt-out of receiving future mailings; see the choice/opt-out section below.

Forums

This site makes forums, message boards, and/or news groups available to its users. The web site may have both "members only" (password-protected) forums and "non-members" forums. Please remember that any information that is disclosed in these areas may become public information and you should exercise caution when deciding to disclose your personal information.

Security

This site has security measures in place to protect the loss, misuse and alteration of the information under our control. The physical devices running this site are located in a secure facility. A high-strength firewall protects our database from outsiders. Access to many areas of our site is password protected. We use Secure Socket Layers (SSL) to encrypt sensitive data you send us.

All credit card transactions are handled by a reputable third party banking and processing institution. They receive the information needed to verify and authorize a customer's credit card and process the order.

Choice/Opt-Out

Our site provides users the opportunity to opt-out of receiving communications from us at the point where we request information about the visitor.

This site gives users the following options for removing their information from our database so as to not receive future communications or to no longer receive our service. You can send email to chair@openfabrics.org
Members who are the individuals designated by their company as being in charge of the member company's product may not opt out of product-related mailings, as receiving this information is an integral part of membership; such individuals should contact their member companies if they do not wish to serve in this role.

Correct/Update

This site gives users the following options for changing and modifying information previously provided by sending information to chair@openfabrics.org

Notification of Changes

If we decide to change our privacy policy, we will post those changes on our web site so our users are always aware of what information we collect, how we use it, and under circumstances, if any, we disclose it. If at any point, we decide to use personally identifiable information in a manner different from that stated at the time it was collected, we will notify users by way of an email. Users will have a choice as to whether or not we use their information in this different manner. We will use information in accordance with the privacy policy under which the information was collected.

7. What is the responsible level of reserves for the OpenFabrics Alliance.
   - The first question is what is the right level of reserve cash in the OpenFabrics Alliance bank account?
     - Susan Coulter (LANL) made note of the fact that having too hight a lievel of reserve funds is not prudent.

- o Scott Atchley (ORNL) sees shutdown costs to 1 year as an upper limit
    - ▪ Scott was using the funding of On-Demand Secure Circuits and Advance Reservation System (OSCARS) at the US Department of Energy (DOE) as a funding example.
- o Using the InfiniBand Trade Association (IBTA) as a funding example, Jim Pappas (Intel) had the opinion that the proper level of funds in the bank should be 1 year of operating costs plus OpenFabrics Alliance shutdown costs including legal costs. Jim stated that he felt that it would be irresponsible of the OpenFabrics Alliance were to spend all of the reserve money in the bank account.
- o Bill Lee (Mellanox) stated that he felt it was necessary that at least 50% of the annual expenses would be a minimum necessary amount. Bill noted that as Treasurer for 2017 he noticed that there were fluctuations membership payments. Bill noted, in his experience as Treasuer, that some membership payments come in the fisrt quarter, other payments come in later.
    - ▪ Funds must be available for payments for the OpenFabrics Workshop and for plug-fest paymentst to UNH-IOL in the middle of the year.
    - ▪ Bill Lee (Mellanox) noted that funds must be available to back up quotes and invoices so that they are processed in a timely fashion.
        - • Paul Bowden (Intel), as a member of the IWG, noted that it was essential to be able to cover IWG payments to UNH-IOL they are fixed, timely, and contractual.
- o Christian Lammeter (Jump Trading) said he felt that 1 year reserve of cash in the OpenFabrics bank account seemed to him to be a little too generous, in his experience.
- o Jaosn Gunthorpe (At-Large) noted that 1 year of OFA revenue is around $300,000.
    - ▪ Jim Ryan (OFA) stated that $138,000 and some change are the predicted operating expenses for 2018.
- • A derivative question is: If our operating reserves is X what can we use the execess for? Contract folks like a Maintainer or Executive Director?
    - o What are considered acceptable expenses for funds over the amount decided upon as the proper reserve cash balance?
    - o If we decide to fund an Executive Director and/or a Maintainer, the funding would come from our reserve funds. No funding would come from higher membership dues. A change in membership dues is off the table for 2018 because no decision has been made on membership levels for 2018. Bob Woodruff (Intel) noted that we have an entire year to figure a new budget for 2019 and what the membership dues will be for 2019.
- • **The OpenFabrics Alliance will be continuing the reserve cash balance conversation during the XWG meeting on Thursday, 30 September.**

8. Ownership of libfabric.org

   Susan Coulter (LANL) purchased by Cisco or Jeff Squires to protect the name. Susan asked if the OFA purchase and take ownership of the web domain?

9. Draft Mission Statement:

   The current Draft Mission Statement is as follows:

   Provide a neutral environment for community assets and infrastructure in support of the development and enhancement of highly performant networking software, and the integration of that software with new and emerging technologies.

10. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jim Pappas (Intel) and seconded by Susan Coulter (LANL).