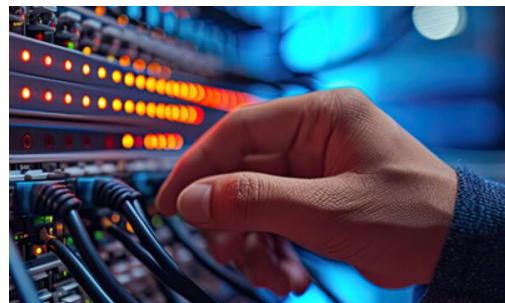# CENIC Newsletter

February 2025

In this newsletter, you'll find information on California's research and education communities in action via the high-performance network and services CENIC provides; how your colleagues are using these services; and information about networking-related events, funds, new programs, and awards.

CENIC NEWS

CENIC Internships:
Working with California Higher Ed to Build a Skilled Workforce for the Future of Networking

CENIC's internship program provides talented engineering students in CA community colleges with network engineering and gain real-world experience that give their resumes a valuable glow-up.

The program's purpose is twofold: supporting the community CENIC serves by offering

students on the job experience and serving as an avenue for CENIC to source employees. In a typical year, 12 students rotate through the program. **Read more about the CENIC Internal Program >**

CENIC and its Member Community in 2024: Artificial Intelligence, Broadband Access, and R&E Innovation

Perhaps the most significant development in network-enabled research and education in 2024 was the growing recognition of the transformations promised by artificial intelligence and machine learning (AI/ML). Recognized as the US locus of AI/ML innovation, the California member institutions of CENIC have embraced their role in creating the next generation of industry innovators and educating the next-generation workforce on which these industries will depend. Meanwhile, implementing the lessons on broadband availability and access learned during the COVID-19 pandemic remains central to ensuring that such benefits extend to all Californians. **Read the annual wrap-up >**

OFCnet Connects More Than 600 Global Innovators to Showcase the Future of Optical Networks and Communications at OFC 2025

The 2025 Optical Fiber Communication Conference and Exhibition (OFC) will spotlight more than 600 global exhibitors – from global technology leaders to emerging innovators – Exhibition: April 1–3 (Technical Conference: March 30–April 3) in San Francisco's Moscone Center.

At the heart of the event is OFCnet, a unique live high-speed optical network connecting exhibitor booths with research networks such as CENIC, Internet2, and ESnet . Introduced in 2022 and developed in collaboration with partners including CENIC, Ciena and Lumen, OFCnet enables attendees to experience cutting-edge advancements in real-world conditions. **Visit the event site >**

6NRP Workshop Videos and Presentations Now Available

Link to recorded presentations from the **6NRP Workshop** that took place in San Diego, CA from January 28-30, are available on **the Qualcomm Institute's YouTube channel**. Collected presentation slides are **available here.**

The **program** included sessions on **CENIC AIR**, AI Education on the NRP, and Domain specific architectures to address scaling beyond Moore's Law. The NRP launched a pilot project to facilitate a new domain science to expand into AI education curriculum. This years selection was "Fusion Energy". If this pilot is successful this could be expanded to future technologies, science, and research.

Tutorials were offered to help attendees learn how to access and make the most of NRP's distributed campus-owned compute cloud and allied resources for research and coursework. Select tutorials were recorded and will also be made available. **Learn more about the workshop >**

COMMUNITY NEWS

- **5 Major K–12 Education Trends of 2024**

- **Final Guidance for BEAD Funding of Alternative Broadband Technology**

- **4 Ways Artificial Intelligence is Poised to Transform Medicine**

- **Growing AI Education Across the CSU**

- **California Community Colleges Team up with the Port Of Los Angeles For Workforce Development**

- **Andromeda Galaxy Finally Viewed in All its Glory, Thanks to UC Berkeley and UC Santa Cruz Astronomers**

- **Book by UC Merced Professor Explains How Video Games Can Help Cancer Research**

EVENTS & PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES

- [**Women in IT Networking at SC Accepting Applications for 2025**](#)

- [**CISOA Tech Summit: Mar 3-6, 2025, Burlingame, CA**](#)

- [**Community College Innovations: Mar 9-12, 2025, San Antonio, TX**](#)

- [**OFC50: Mar 30-Apr 3, 2025, San Francisco, CA**](#)

- [**ESnet Confab25: Apr 7-10, 2025, San Francisco, CA**](#)

- [**2025 Internet2 CommEX25: Apr 25-May 1, 2025, Anaheim, CA**](#)

_____

About CENIC | www.cenic.org

CENIC connects California to the world — advancing education and research statewide by providing the world-class network essential for innovation, collaboration, and economic growth. This nonprofit organization operates the California Research and Education Network (CalREN), a high-capacity network designed to meet the unique requirements of over 20 million users, including the vast majority of K-20 students together with educators, researchers, and others at vital public-serving institutions. CENIC's Charter Associates are part of the world's largest education system; they include the California K-12 system, California Community Colleges, the California State University system, California's Public Libraries, the University of California system, Stanford, Caltech, USC, and the Naval Postgraduate School. CENIC also provides connectivity to leading-edge institutions and industry research organizations around the world, serving the public as a catalyst for a vibrant California.