

CENIC

Newsletter

October 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 Members Enable Data-Driven Agriculture: Optimizing Harvests in a Changing Environment

What if the soil in the remote and hilly terrain of a vineyard could regularly deliver data on its moisture and health? And what if quickly gathered data from every cluster of grapes could tell a vintner when it is time to harvest them? And what is the value of comparing all that data from year to year? Sensor technology linked to CENIC AIR makes all of that possible today. The challenge is to collate the disparate sources of data that emanate from a vineyard to provide continuous, actionable information.



That challenge is being addressed by an innovative demonstration project fueled by CENIC and its collaborative partners: a novel model of precision agriculture in the vineyards.

The project launched on the site of [Iron Horse Vineyards](#), located near Sebastopol in California. [READ THE ARTICLE >](#)



Community Connections: The Network, Services, and Collaborative Opportunities Made Possible by CENIC

CENIC is most often associated with the high-performance fiber-based network backbone that it created in 1996 on behalf of California's

research and education community—the 8,000-mile [California Research and Education Network](#) (CalREN). The CalREN backbone is the foundation for all of the services and benefits we provide to our members, but it's only the beginning of the story.

Learn how the CalREN backbone extends to every part of California, visit our new Community Portals for quicklinks to CENIC resources, and discover the CENIC initiatives that enable collaboration among our members and others nation- and worldwide. [READ THE ARTICLE >](#)

Ventura County Library Capitalizes on CENIC Membership to Provide eduroam Connectivity to Student and Faculty Patrons

It was during a CENIC Board of Directors meeting when [Ventura County Library](#) Director Nancy Schram first heard of [eduroam](#), the secure, world-wide roaming access service developed for the international research and education community that allows students, researchers, and staff from participating institutions to obtain Internet connectivity across campus and when visiting other participating institutions by simply opening their laptops.



After learning about eduroam, Schram opened up a conversation with former Dean of Libraries Alicia Virtue at [CSU Channel Islands](#) to collaborate on this project.

Moreover, Schram feels that other libraries could find great value in becoming eduroam Hotspot Operators. [READ THE ARTICLE >](#)

Pacific Wave, Cal Poly Humboldt, and Internet2 Collaborate on Connectivity to Singapore, Guam, and Jakarta



On September 3, 2025, Pacific Wave announced its successful partnership with FLAG, one of the world's largest privately owned subsea cable networks, for new capacity on the state-of-the-art Echo subsea cable system, significantly expanding

connectivity between US university research institutions and their partners in Singapore, Guam, and Indonesia, empowering this global research community with greater speed, reliability, and capacity for their common endeavors.

This upgrade of the Pacific Wave Exchange, a major milestone for trans-Pacific R&E connectivity, will provide a dedicated and resilient path for researchers, students, and institutions to collaborate on data-intensive projects with partners across the region. [READ THE ARTICLE >](#)

Explore the Future with Jupyter Notebooks and CENIC AIR



Anyone connected to a CENIC member community has access to Jupyter Notebooks, whether or not they're part of a Science DMZ.

In fact, CENIC members are in an ideal position to use Jupyter Notebooks with the [CENIC AI Resource](#) (CENIC AIR). This is a huge head start in making the most of the related compute, storage, and data resources hosted by CENIC members in California, as well as on the [National Research Platform](#) (NRP) and [National Data Platform](#) (NDP).

With these tools, members have easy access to a platform for developing skills and expanding experiences that will support their academic and professional careers. [READ THE ARTICLE >](#)

CENIC Biennial Conference The Right Connection Early Bird Registration, Call for Proposals Now Open

CENIC's biennial conference brings together the CENIC community, with participants from all segments; public and private research universities; public libraries; scientific, cultural, and performing arts institutions; private sector technology businesses; public policy and government agencies; as well as R&E partners from across the country and around the world.



More details can be found on the [events page](#).

Proposal submission and early bird registration are now open.

The Proposal submission deadline is **Sunday, November 30, 11:59 PM PDT**. The program committee will review proposals, and presenters will be notified of acceptance by **December 19, 2025**. Final presentation slides are due by **March 12, 2026**.

Questions about the program or proposals can be emailed to jaugst@cenic.org.

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[Submit Your Proposal Here](#)

Early bird registration is now open for The Right Connection 2026, March 29 - April 1. **The early bird rate is \$450, which will go up to \$500 on December 12, 2025.** Make sure to take advantage of the special rate before that date.

[Register Now](#)

Learn More About CENIC Stars: The Team Members that Make You Shine

The smooth, seamless, and highly customized networking and services offered by CENIC to our members are made possible by a responsive team of experienced engineers and others who are available around the clock 365 days of the year. This team is one phone call away from our members and typically already responding to and solving issues before our member institutions are aware of them.



Mark Lozada



Gary Kazaryan

We'd like to introduce you to two such team members, Principal Engineer Gary Kazaryan and Lead Network Engineer Mark Lozada, and walk you through the process by which they led the successful on-time migration of one of CENIC's largest and busiest locations, our second Los Angeles area backbone hubsite. [READ THE ARTICLE >](#)

CENIC Community Technology



CENIC COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY AFFINITY GROUP

Affinity Group's Next Meeting: October 21, 2025

The [C2TAG](#) is a forum for representatives from all CENIC member segments to share information and expertise about network technologies, creating a community of like-minded professionals who serve their colleagues as trusted advisors. It also allows members to engage CENIC staff and explore recently deployed network services and their applications among CENIC segments.

Membership is open to those at all CENIC member institutions, and the next C2TAG meeting will take place on **October 21 at 11am PT**. This meeting will include updates from CENIC Engineers about the network, learn from [K12HSN](#) about their dataLINK database, explore our new CENIC community maps, and more.

If you'd like to join and take advantage of everything the C2TAG has to offer, you can learn more [here](#).

Recordings of previous meetings are also available to members of the C2TAG, such as the September 19 webinar where David Zearbaugh of the [Altadena Public Library](#) discussed how the library was able to recover and provide badly needed services to its patrons very quickly thanks to its CENIC membership. [LEARN MORE AND JOIN TODAY >](#)

A banner with a dark blue background featuring a network of white and red dots connected by thin lines, creating a web-like pattern. The text 'NETWORKING NEWS' is written in white, uppercase, sans-serif font on the left side of the banner.

NETWORKING NEWS

- [Local Permitting for Fiber Network Projects: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly](#)
- [New interactive BEAD tracker dashboard from Connected Nation](#)
- [CSU Research Cultivates Sustainable Future for Agriculture](#)
- [Fiber as Sensor: How fiber is becoming a critical monitoring tool](#)
- [Thrilling Progress in Brain-Computer Interfaces from UC Labs](#)
- [Cal Poly Humboldt Powering Next-Generation Global Research Connectivity](#)
- [California Community Colleges Launches Ambitious AI Integration Initiative](#)
- [WACREN Connects Six New Countries and Sets Foundation for Climate Programme](#)

EVENTS & PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES

- [Voices from the Fiber Frontier, October 17, Online](#)
- [CA Library Association Conference, October 23-25, Riverside, CA](#)
- [UbuntuNet Alliance Women's Hackathon 2025, October 27–29, Harare](#)
- [NAIRR AI Education Fellowship at CRA, Apply by November 1](#)
- [JupyterCon 2025, November 3-5, San Diego, CA](#)
- [CITE Annual Conference 2025, November 18-20, Sacramento, CA](#)
- [SC25: November 16–21, St. Louis, MO](#)
- [Internet2 TechEX, December 8-12, Denver, CO](#)

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.

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