

Research Report [until 30 June 2008]

<i>Project Name</i>	PlanetLab NZ
<i>Project Manager</i>	Prof. K. Pawlikowski
<i>Milestone Achieved</i>	working toward milestone 1 of 5
<i>Project On Track?</i>	Yes

The goals of the Capability Build Fund are to raise awareness and enable effective use of KAREN. REANNZ wants to promote the enabling potential of KAREN and its use through creating a community ethos of sharing knowledge.

Current Status (500 words max)

What is the current status of the project in terms of the milestones and its overall goals?

The work in this project has begun with the initial delay of four weeks, caused by a later than the originally expected date of the final agreement and finalization of the administrative procedures at the University of Canterbury. As the results of this, the work on this research project has officially begun on Friday, June 27, 2008, when the PI was informed that the university had opened an account associated with the PlanetLab NZ. This has allowed us to order, still on the same day, the necessary computer hardware which will be used in this project.

According to the original plan, we need about four weeks to install the first PlanetLab node, at the University of Canterbury. We are ready to begin this work as soon as the equipment is available, and no further delays are expected. The node should be operational by July 26.

Communications (500 words max)

Identify ways that the capability aspects of the project, eg skills or technology developed, have been communicated to the wider community.

Information about this project will appear in the next month's issue of "Research & Consultancy News", published by the Research Office of the University of Canterbury, and "College Connect" of the College of Engineering. We will also contact "The KAREN Newsletter", and the University of Canterbury's "Chronicle" which is published monthly and is addressed to a broader audience. We will also encourage our collaborators from the University of Otago and the University of Auckland to publicize this research project at their universities.

One postgraduate student has joined the PlanetLab research group at Canterbury and is currently investigating a possibility of using PlanetLab via Karen in his Masters research project on P2P systems.

Top Issues (500 words max)

Identify and comment on any current issues or barriers, which will impede your ability to meet the next milestone and the overall goals of the project?

No further delays with meeting the first milestone are expected if the hardware is delivered and installed on time.

Top Risks (500 words max)

Comment on any known or anticipated risks to project: are there any risks that may impede your ability to achieve your next milestones and project goals

We have also approached the leaders of PlanetLab project in the USA, regarding their possible contributions in the PlanetLab NZ workshop (Milestone 3 of this research project). The first indication are that it would be better to postpone this workshop for up to two months, to organize it in the 2nd half of August 2009.

What's Coming Up (500 words max)

Next steps in project relating to the specific milestones and project goals coming up - please be as technical as possible. Also include any other goals that relate to building KAREN capability awareness..

Installation of the PlanetLab node at the University of Canterbury will allow us to begin research on application of Akaroa2 (our automated controller of distributed simulation, see http://www.cosc.canterbury.ac.nz/research/RG/net_sim/simulation_group.html) on computers connected to world-wide distributed PlanetLab, using KAREN as its transport medium. In September, our team at Canterbury will be joined by a visiting PhD student from Japan, who will work with us on these issues for three months.