

## FAU gains supercomputer resources

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**Florida Atlantic University** has joined an international effort to create professional information technology opportunities for the Hispanic community and to advance research in areas such as life sciences, weather modeling and prediction. Through its new alliance, FAU is to be able to advance its own research priorities, as well.

The Boca Raton-based university is the 10th member of the **IBM**-led Latin American Grid (LA Grid). LA Grid is a collection of computing resources in North America, Latin America and Spain woven together to act as one massive supercomputer.

Armonk, N.Y.-based IBM (NYSE: IBM) said it has become one of the world's largest university grid initiatives.

While joint research programs in hurricane mitigation, life sciences and health care are the priority for LA Grid, IBM said member universities can also access the joint supercomputing resources for independent research.

The computer company said FAU, for example, plans to conduct research on the human genome, bioinformatics mapping, computational physics, integrated computation and communications, video processing, computer simulation and information security.

Larry F. Lemanski, FAU vice president for research, said FAU was selected to join LA Grid because of its advanced research, Hispanic technical professional talent and executive commitment to fulfill the vision of LA Grid.

By joining LA Grid, FAU is to begin by contributing research scientists and its supercomputer based on IBM BladeCenter Systems from the university's College of Engineering and Computer Science.

FAU is to formally begin its work on the grid this month.

Other local LA Grid participants include **Florida International University** and the **University of Miami**. The **University of North Florida** is also involved, as is IBM South Florida.