

# Distributed Environments evolution – the case of AMPATH/AmLight

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# What is AMPATH?

AMPATH (Pathway of the Americas) (ASN 20080) is a high-performance Internet Open Exchange Point (OXP) in Miami, Florida, established in 2001. AMPATH facilitates peering and network research between U.S. and international Research and Education Networks (RENs) as well as direct links (e.g., UPR, UVI, NWS).

- Access to Internet2, Florida LambdaRail (FLR), Energy Sciences Network (ESnet)
- Access to AMPATH connectors and peers
- Access to the AtlanticWave Layer2 Transport service for national research networks
- Commodity Internet service through AMPATH's multi-homed connections to Tier-1 providers
- Settlement Free peering to more than 70 peers including Google, Akamai, Microsoft, Amazon, and NetFlix.
- Collocation Space
- Smart Hands and Engineering Service
- 120 Gbps of upstream bandwidth capacity via AtlanticWave and FLR

- ✓ 45 Mbps of bandwidth
- ✓ GSR 12012 router donated by Cisco Systems
- ✓ CBX-500 ATM switch donated by Lucent Technologies
- ✓ MOU for DS-3 capacity (9 countries for 3 years)
- ✓ Connectivity to I2 Abilene and StarLight

2002

2002

2004

2004

## 2001

- ✓ Collaboration between FIU and Global Crossing
- ✓ REN interconnections
- ✓ Study current and emerging technologies
- ✓ Terremark and FIU signed RDA
- ✓ MOU signed with REUNA and RETINA

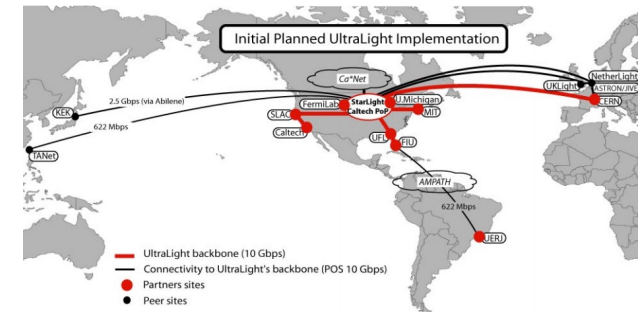


## 2003

- ✓ First AMPATH™ International Conference
- ✓ Connected to Peru, Venezuela, Panama, Mexico, US Virgin Islands, and Colombia



- ✓ Grid-enabled Center for High-Energy Physics Research and Educational Outreach (CHEPREO) at FIU
- ✓ Increased backbone capacity to 622 Mbps
- ✓ Supported the development and deployment of UltraLight

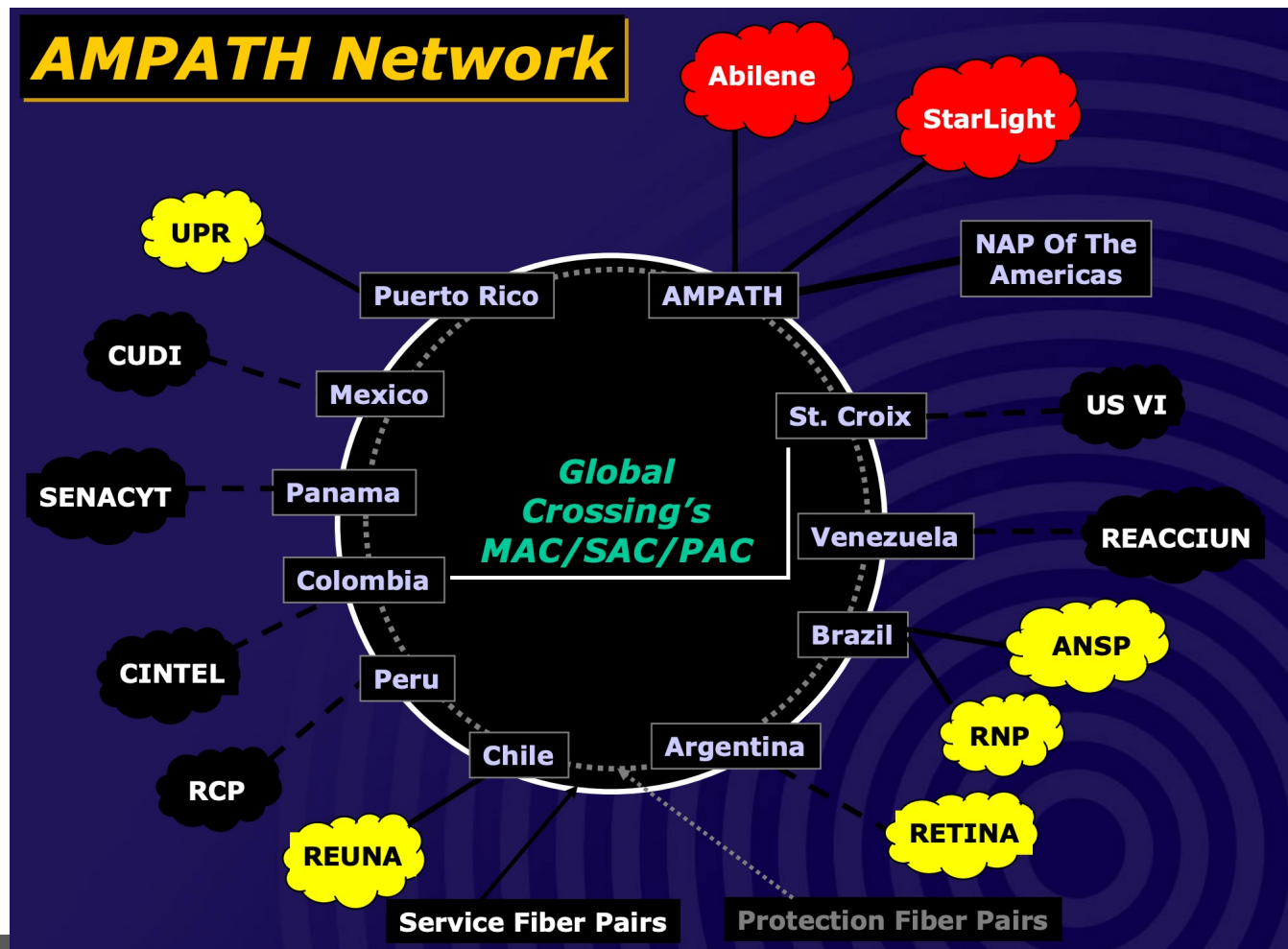


2002: First AMPATH™ International Conference - Universidad Austral de Chile, Campus Isla Teja Valdivia, Chile

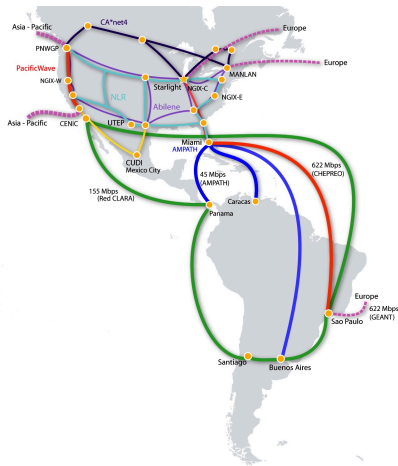


AMPATH Valdivia Group Report: [https://ampath.net/ampath2/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Valdivia\\_Report.pdf](https://ampath.net/ampath2/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Valdivia_Report.pdf)

## 2003: AMPATH Network



# 2005-2009



Florida LambdaRail joined Forces with CiscoWave and UltraLight/PLaNetS to enable the AtlanticWave and Brazil's CMS Tier2 facilities to participate in SC08

2005

Supported cyberinfrastructure for International Biodiversity Research Collaboration

2007

2009

WHREN-LILA Initiatives

- ✓ 2x 1 Gbps San Diego to Tijuana
- ✓ 2.5 Gbps Miami to Sao Paulo
- ✓ 10 Gbps over 5 years
- ✓ Partnered with RedCLARA

Supported Pan American Advanced Studies Institute (PASI) Initiative

2006

- ✓ Supported PLaNetS: Physics Lambda Network System
- ✓ Initiated the Global CyberBridges graduate fellowship program for science and engineering

2008

AtlanticWave established a 10Gbps wave along the Atlantic rim, from NYC to Miami

# 2010-2014



2010

- ✓ PrimoGENI coupled with AmLight network resources extends the GENI infrastructure to partnership programs in Brazil to prototype future Internet network architectures
- ✓ AMPATH to launched support for Dynamic Hybrid Networking
- ✓ Open Science Data Cloud (OSDC); Partnerships for International Research and Education (PIRE)

2012



- ✓ Upgraded the AmLight links between Brazil and U.S. RENs to 40 Gbps
- ✓ Deployed an experimental 100 Gbps alien wave between the U.S. and Brazil
- ✓ Dynamic virtual circuit service are available on AmLight

2014

- ✓ Initiated the first Americas Lightpaths (AmLight) project
- ✓ Connecting Brazil, Canada, Chile, Mexico, and the United States
- ✓ Connecting to RedCLARA
- ✓ Supported disciplines: physics, environmental science, oceanography, climate change, astronomy, and others

2011

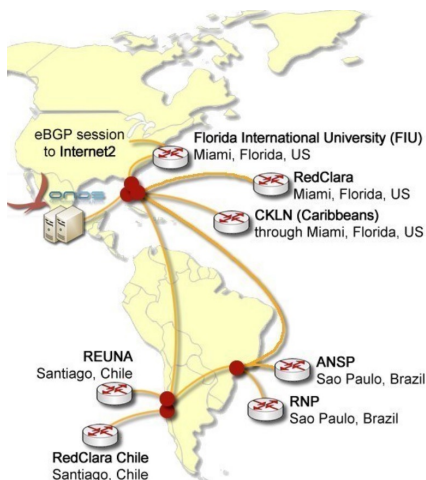


- ✓ Initiated the FlowSurge project
- ✓ Experimented with OpenFlow and SDN
- ✓ South American Astronomy Coordination Committee (SAACC)

2013

- ✓ FIU awarded for AmLight to provide an advanced international network for the Vera Rubin Observatory
- ✓ AmLight network added Software-Defined Networking capability between the U.S. and Latin America

# 2015-2019

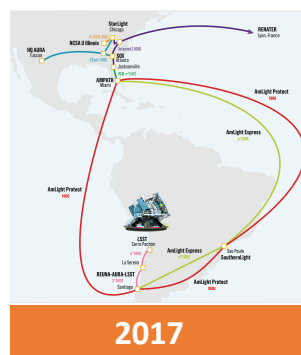


- ✓ AmLight Exp activates first US - Latin America 100Gbps networking link
- ✓ Angola Cables and FIU signed of a memorandum of understanding (MOU)
- ✓ FIU implemented Science DMZ

2015

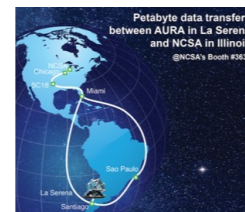
- ✓ AtlanticWave-SDX: A Distributed Intercontinental Experimental Software Defined Exchange for Research & Education Networking
- ✓ AmLight deployed ONOS and SDN-IP software live on Next-Generation REN
- ✓ AmLight Exp project implements a hybrid network strategy that combines the use of optical spectrum (Express) and leased capacity (Protect)

2016



2017

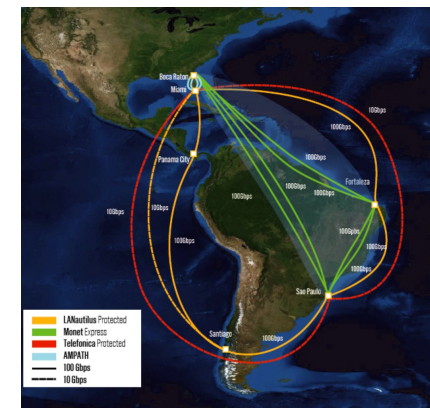
- ✓ AmLight-Exp network demonstrated a large data-sets transfer at SC17
- ✓ Supported inter-domain coordination to leverage multiple academic network operators to support Vera Rubin Observatory data transfer



- ✓ Vera Rubin Observatory's first light resulted in a successful transfer of digital data over International AmLight 100 Gbps fiber optic networks

- ✓ AmLight's SDN Looking Glass – An SDN centralized monitoring system

2018



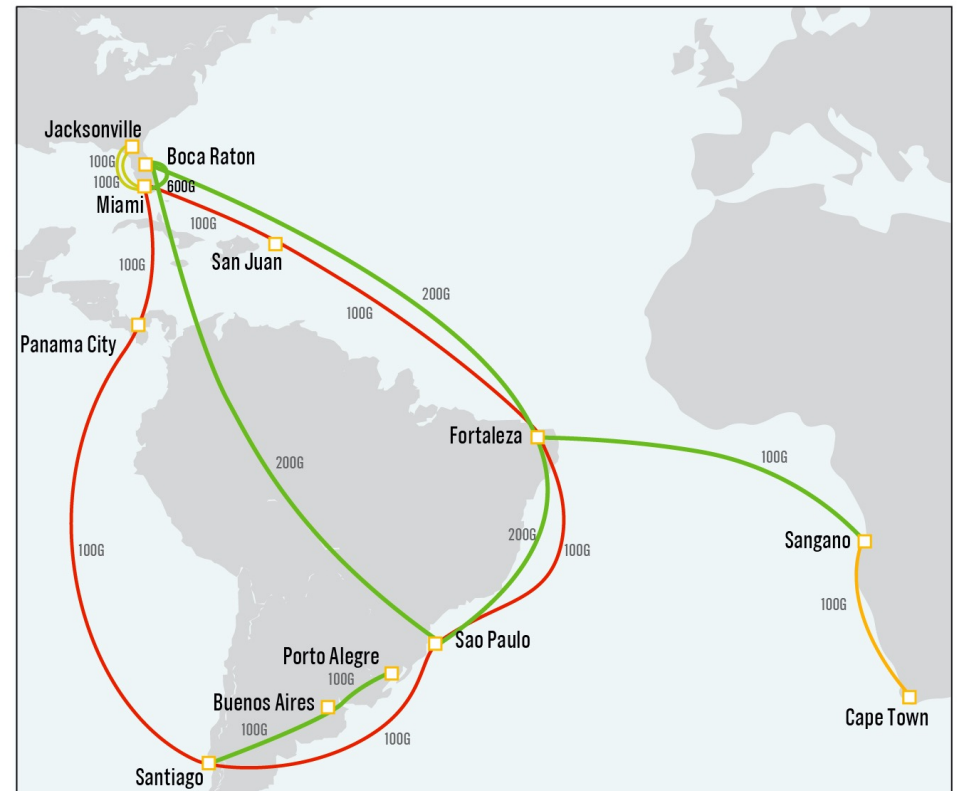
2019

- ✓ AmLight Exp project added 3x 200 Gbps optical waves for R&E between the U.S. and Brazil
- ✓ AmLight Exp introduced In-band Network Telemetry (INT)
- ✓ 630 Gbps of upstream bandwidth, network auto-recovery and dynamic provisioning, network programmability, integration with SENSE project's distributed orchestrator, and 100Gbps DTNs

2020

# 2020-2021

- ✓ AmLight ExP interconnected three continents by activating 100Gbps end-to-end links between the U.S., Brazil and South Africa (NSF award # 1451018)
- ✓ IRNC: Core Improvement: Americas-Africa Lightpaths Express and Protect (AmLight-ExP) (NSF award #2029283)
- ✓ IRNC: Core Improvement: AtlanticWave-SDX: A Distributed Experimental SDX Supporting Research, Experimental Deployments, and Interoperability Testing on Global Scales (NSF award #2029278)
- ✓ CC\* Integration-Large: Q-Factor: A Framework to Enable Ultra High-Speed Data Transfer Optimization based on Real-Time Network State Information provided by Programmable Data Planes (NSF award #2018754)



2021

2021

  
Americas Lightpaths Express & Protect  
(NSF [Award # ACI-2029283](#))

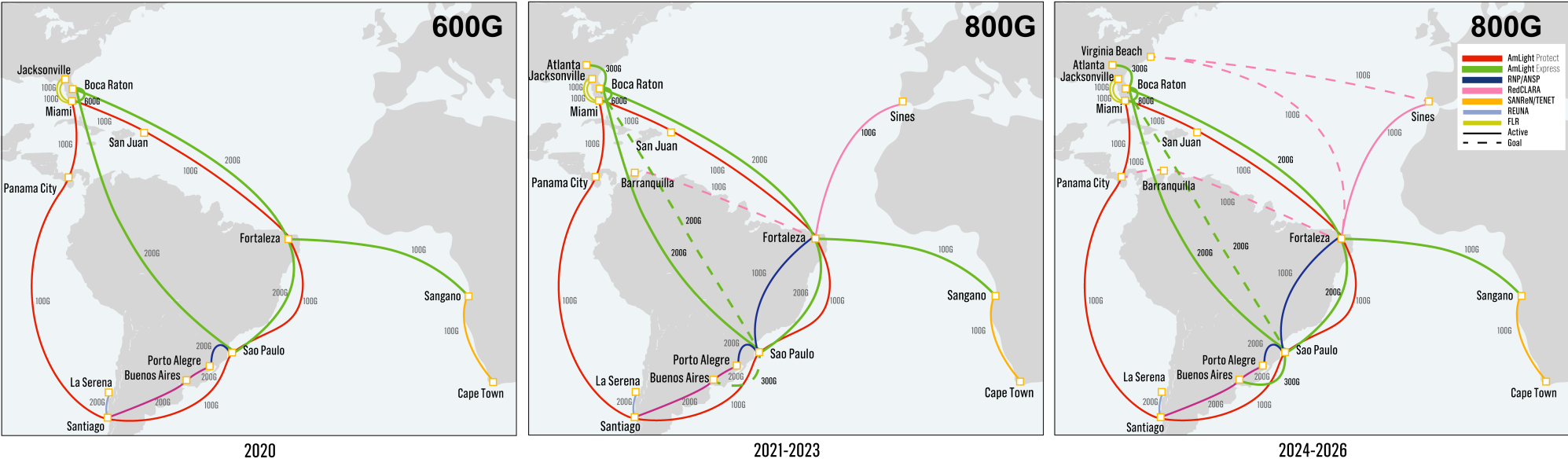
## Americas-Africa Lightpaths Express and Protect (AmLight-ExP)

The goal of the newly funded AmLight ExP project (NSF Award #2029283) is to operate and continuously improve production and experimental network connections between the USA, Latin America and Africa:

- ✓ **Evolving the AmLight-ExP physical infrastructure:** The upgraded network infrastructure will support new high-demand SLA-based science drivers.
- ✓ **Evolving the AmLight-ExP SDN Controller:** With the existing infrastructure, AmLight ExP has presence in 3 continents, 10 data centers, and a forwarding layer that includes 25+ 100Gbps links. On top of this complex infrastructure, many services are provided, such as L2VPNs, L3VPNs, cloud services, R&E IP Transit, including dynamic services and testbeds. The AmLight-ExP SDN Controller will be enhanced to increase automation of many network functions and improve resiliency.



Americas-Africa Lightpaths Express and Protect (AmLight-ExP)



2021

2021



(NSF Award #2029278)

## AtlanticWave-SDX 2.0

A Distributed Experimental SDX Supporting Research, Experimental Deployments, and Interoperability Testing at Global Scale

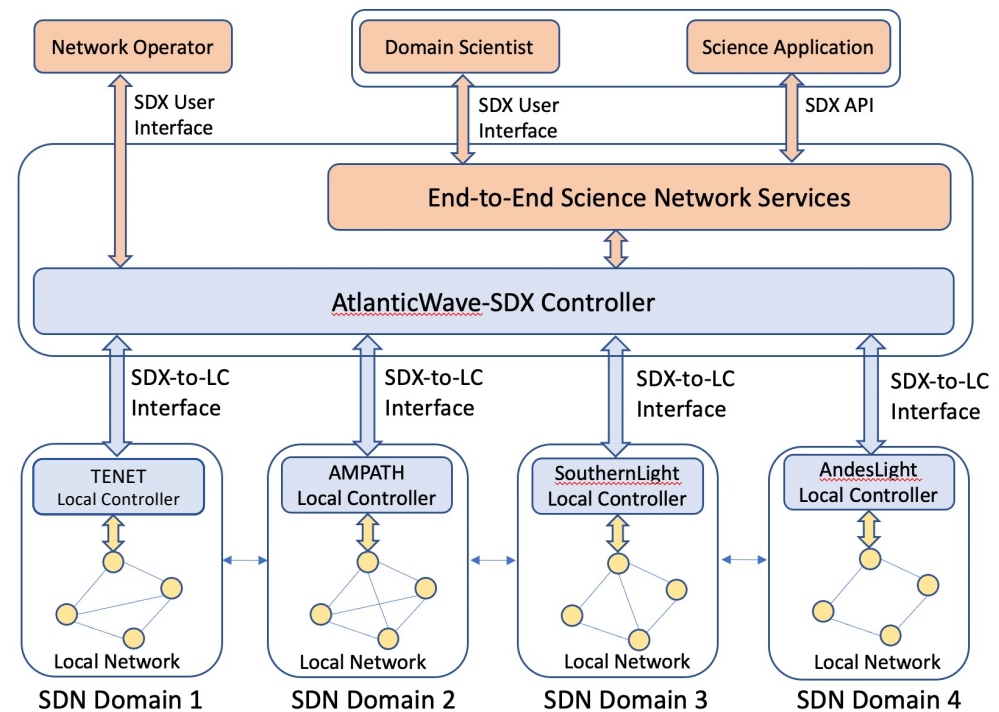
### GOALS:

To build a distributed SDX between the Americas and Africa (NSF award #2029278)

- ✓ Building a distributed intercontinental experimental SDX by leveraging Open Exchange Points (OXPs) connected to AmLight ExP
- ✓ The project also includes collaboration with the Open Science Grid (OSG) and Pegasus workflow management system.

To enable domain scientists to reserve network resources through a multi-domain SDX by

- ✓ Simplifying the interface for domain scientists to request network resources
- ✓ Providing interfaces to program the forwarding plane to respond to application requirements



Over 34 National Science Foundation  
(NSF) Awards

Over 20 years of service to the research  
communities

600GB links connecting  
3 continents

## Conclusion

We covered 20 years of evolution starting from a PoP in Miami to a distributed Open Exchange Point Infrastructure that:

- ✓ Connected three (3) continents: South America , North America, and Africa
- ✓ Increased bandwidth capacity from 45 Mbps to multiple 100/200 Gbps links, total upstream capacity of 600 Gbps
- ✓ Evolved a rational international infrastructure through collaborations with RENs and global R&E community
- ✓ Evolved a production and experimental international backbone infrastructure based on SDN technology
- ✓ Connected six (6) OXPs
- ✓ Deployed an international backbone using a hybrid environment of optical spectrum and leased capacity
- ✓ Supported varieties of science drivers
- ✓ Involved researchers and students
- ✓ .... and we are not finished yet

Over 81 academic  
publications

209 students involved via various programs and  
internships

Over 200 Conference  
presentations

Over 34 National Science Foundation  
(NSF) Awards

Over 20 years of service to the research  
communities

600GB links connecting  
3 continents

# THANK YOU!

[vchergar@fiu.edu](mailto:vchergar@fiu.edu)

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# Acronyms

AmLight - Americas Lightpaths

AmLight ExP - Americas-Africa Lightpaths Express and Protect

AMPATH -Pathway of the Americas

ANSP- Academic Network of Sao Paulo, currently named REDNESP

AutoGOLE - Automated GLIF Open Lightpath Exchanges

CHEPREO - Grid-enabled Center for High-Energy Physics Research and Educational Outreach

CIARA - Center for Internet Augmented Research and Assessment

ESnet - Energy Sciences Network

FIU - Florida International University

FLR - Florida LambdaRail

GENI -Global Environment for Network Innovations

GLIF - Global Lambda Integrated Facility

HENP - High-Energy Nuclear Physics

HEPGRID - High Energy Physics GRID Rio de Janeiro

INT - In-band Network Telemetry

LHC - Large Hadron Collider

MOU - Memorandum of Understanding

NWS - New World Symphony

OSDC - Open Science Data Cloud

OSG - Open Science Grid

EXP - Open Exchange Point

PASI - Pan American Advanced Studies Institute

PIRE - Partnerships for International Research and Education

PLaNetS- Physics Lambda Network Services

QoS - Quality of Service

RDA - Research and Development Agreement

RedCLARA - Regional Research and Educational Network for Latin America

REN - Research and Education Network

RETINA - Argentinian Research and Educational Network

REUNA - Chileans Research and Educational Network

RNP - National Education and Research Network of Brazil

SAACC - South American Astronomy Coordination Committee

SDN - Software Defined Networking

SENSE - SDN for End-to-End Networking @ Exascale

SNMP - Simple Network Management Protocol

SouthernLight GLIF Open Lightpath Exchanges Sao Paulo

SPRACE - Sao Paulo Research and Analysis Center

UPR -University of Puerto Rico

UVI - University of the Virgin Islands

WHREN-LILA - Western Hemisphere Research and Networking and the Links Interconnecting Latin America