April 2, 2001

National Science Foundation
Director, Office of Integrative Activities
4201 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, Virginia 22230

Dear Dr. Pitts:

Rice University is pleased to submit this research proposal to the National Science Foundation (NSF), entitled "Center for Grid Application Development Software (CGrADS)", under the direction of Professor Ken Kennedy at Rice. Partnering with Rice University are the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, the University of California at San Diego, the University of Southern California Information Sciences Institute, the University of Chicago, and the University of Houston.

We are fully supportive of the proposed center, and will provide 30% of the amount funded from NSF as cost share for the life of the project. This support will be in the form of graduate student stipends and tuitions, cash funding to support the educational, research and infrastructure goals of the Center, and academic year salary for faculty to participate in the project beyond what is supported by the NSF budget. The sum of $19,434,367, including facilities and administrative costs, is requested from the NSF for the period of August 2002 through August 2007.

We are confident the proposed CGrADS effort has all the components to be a successful Science and Technology Center. It pulls together a truly impressive list of collaborators, with proven leadership skills, to work on a problem that represents the next large technological improvement needed in computing environments. We look forward to working with the NSF on this effort.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Jordan Konisky